

A P P E N D I X C.

EVIDENCE

TAKEN BY THE

FIRST SUB-COMMITTEE

UPON

THE FEVER HOSPITAL

AND

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS.

CALCUTTA :

G. H. HUTTMANN, BENGAL MILITARY ORPHAN PRESS.

1838.

APPENDIX C.

ERRATA.

- Page.
- i. Line 1st and 3rd from bottom, *for* 'Quarter' *read* 'Month.'
 - x. Line 7 and last, insert within brackets the words "Corroborates Street as to remuneration."
 - xi. Line 11 from bottom, *for* 'cents' *read* 'cent.'
 - xii. Line 2nd from bottom, *for* 'petitions' *read* 'petitioners.'
 - xxxii. Line 8. *for* 'unable' *read* 'enabled'; and line 2 from bottom, *for* 'even' *read* 'Even.'
 - xxxiii. Line 3 and 8 from bottom, *for* 'having' *read* 'Having.'
 - xxxviii. Line 7 dele 'That,' and *for* 'in' *read* 'lu.'
 - xxxix. Line 2. *for* 'come' *read* 'came.'
 - cxliii. Line 21. *for* 'scite' *read* 'site.'
 - cxlviii. Line 8 from bottom, *for* 'shall' *read* 'should.'
 - cli. Line 10. *for* 'connection,' *read* 'conviction.'
 - clxxxviii. Line 5 from bottom, *for* 'diseases' *read* 'disease.'
 - clxxxix. Line 4 dele 'semicolon' after 'them' and insert a full stop, after 'otherwise'; and at the 5th line *for* 'it' *read* 'It.'

APPENDIX TO APPENDIX C.

- 11 Line 2nd from bottom *for* '1,39,967-2-0' *read* '90,351-13-2'
- 35 " 14th *for* 27,37,642-5-8 *read* 27,37,742-5-8
- " " 15th *for* 1,218-12-7 *read* 1,118-12-7
- " " 16th *for* 1,879-14-6 *read* 1,779-14-6

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MUNICIPAL ENQUIRY

First Sub-Committee.

EVIDENCE.

No. 1.

27th July, 1836.

Mr. John Carr, examined.

No. 1.

*Mr. John Carr,
27th July, 1836.*

Q. 1. How long have you held the situation of an Assessor of the House Tax?
—A. Since 1831.

Q. 2. How long has Mr. Graham held his situation?—A. I think he was appointed in the beginning of 1832, but I do not recollect the exact date.

Q. 3. By whom are the Assessors of the House Tax appointed?—A. By the Magistrates in Sessions.

Q. 4. How are the Assessors remunerated?—A. By fixed salaries. I receive 400 Rupees a month, and 30 more for Sircars, and Mr. Graham receives 300 a month, and 30 Rupees for Sircars.

Q. 5. What portion of your time is occupied in discharging your duties as an Assessor?—A. I conduct my business as an Assessor in the mornings and evenings, and a good deal of time is occupied. I do not go about examining premises in the day time, for, independent of the heat rendering it impossible to do so, it would be entirely useless, as I should not be able to obtain any information, for at that time every one has some business to attend to, and the occupiers of houses would not be in the way to answer questions.

Q. 6. Do you go about the Town yourself?—A. Yes, and the Sircars above alluded to, assist me.

Q. 7. Are petitions presented by the Householders against your valuation?—A. Yes, both by Europeans and Natives, but the appeals are generally against the old valuation.

Q. 8. What part of the Town is assessed by you?—A. The 2d and 4th Divisions, the former including all houses from Loll Bazar to Cotton Street, and valued at about Sicca Rupees 1,20,000 per Quarter, and yielding a Quarterly Tax of about Sicca Rupees 18,000—and the latter including all houses in Chowringhee, south of Durrumtollah Street, valued at about Sicca Rupees 1,00,000 per Quarter.

No. 1.

Mr. John Carr,
27th July, 1836.

and yields a Quarterly Tax of about Sierra Rupees 15,000. I am speaking in round numbers, and without reference to my books, the valuations and Tax, may probably be a trifle less than the above.

Q. 9. It would appear by your statement that the Division occupied by the Natives, pays more Tax than that occupied by Europeans?—A. Yes, because the Natives' houses are built much nearer to each other, than the Europeans.

Q. 10. What part of the Town is assessed by Mr. Graham?—A. He has charge of the 1st and 3d Divisions.

Q. 11. Do you keep an Office?—A. I have no allowance for an Office, and I therefore appropriate a room in my own house to that purpose. I have not had any Office furniture allowed me, such as desks, tables, almirahs, &c. &c. I have provided these at my own expense.

Q. 12. Have you any Assistants?—A. No, only the Sircars already alluded to.

Q. 13. When Householdors consider your Assessment objectionable, what mode is adopted, and where do they apply for redress?—A. When I increase the existing rate of valuation I serve the Proprietor with a printed notice, informing him what Tax he will have to pay Quarterly, upon the proposed valuation. The printed notice directs him to appeal to the Magistrates, through the Clerk of the Peace, within a given number of days, should he have any objection to the new valuation. If he appeals, he is told that his case will be laid before the Magistrates on a certain day, and he is requested to attend personally at the Police, when he is at liberty to urge any objections, and to bring forward any proof he may be able to produce, to show that his objections are well founded.

Q. 14. What is done in small cases?—A. All cases are decided in the same manner.

Q. 15. Do the Magistrates practically enquire and reject your Assessment?—A. They decide with reference to our reports, and to the objections urged by the Petitioners; when premises are let, it is easy to fix the proper valuation.

Q. 16. How do you ascertain the value of houses?—A. In the European part of the Town, where the houses are generally let, it is not difficult to value them, as we derive our information from the Tenants, and if the information we obtain from them, agrees with the Landlords' statement, we feel satisfied that we have arrived at the actual rent, at which the premises are let. In the Native part of the Town, it is very difficult to ascertain the value of property, as the houses are not generally rented.

Q. 17. What proportion of Assessment do the Natives bear to the European or Christian population?—A. I cannot answer this question off hand—and it would take a long time to prepare a statement.

Q. 18. What do you suppose is the proportion of the sums collected from each Division, from the lowest to the largest, upon an average?—A. There are valuations from 4 annas on, say, a single hut, up to about 7,000 Rupees a month, which is about the rate, the Government House is assessed at. There are hundreds of numbers assessed at, from 4 annas to 600 Rupees a month, and it would take a long time to prepare a statement.

Q. 19. Is not the present Assessment founded from a book of Mr. Laprimaudaye's?—A. I believe the Books prepared by Mr. Laprimaudaye may be said to be the foundation of the present Assessment. I believe the Town was newly Assessed in 1821. Mr. Laprimaudaye's Books no doubt assisted much, and may therefore probably be considered as the foundation of the present Assessment. There have, however been so many appeals, and new Assessments, that I think but few numbers remain at the old valuation; where alterations have not been made, of course the premises stand at the old valuation.

Q. 20. Have you any thing to do with the Collection of House Tax?—A. No.

Q. 21. Is there any body else to value the houses, besides yourself and the Sircars?—A. No one; my Sircars do not assist me in forming my valuations; they are not persons I could place any dependence on.

Q. 22. What is the difference between the present rate of valuation of property for Assessment, and that of 5 years back?—A. It is from 30 to 33 per cent. or about $\frac{1}{3}$ d lower. Property fell much in value after the failure of the Agency Houses. After Alexander and Co. and Mackintosh and Co.'s failure, about 2500 Petitions were sent in, mostly for reduction.

Q. 23. Do you think the Assessment at the present rate of 5 per cent. is as high as property could bear?—A. I think it might be increased to the full rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as allowed by Act of Parliament on all houses valued at, or above, say 100 Rupees, or 150 Rupees a month, and I do not think this would be oppressive,—on the other hand, I consider 5 per cent. too high a rate on huts.

Q. 24. Do you think all premises are valued as high as the property could bear?—A. Yes.

Q. 25. Have you Assessed all the property in the Divisions under your charge, which is liable to Assessment?—A. Yes.

Q. 26. Have you any suggestions to offer for the improvement of the Assessment?—A. No. The value of property in the European part of the Town, is, I think, ascertained with sufficient accuracy. There is great difficulty in valuing the Native part of the Town, because no respectable native ever rents a house, unless he gets it much below its value, or unless he is only a temporary resident. Almost all Natives live in their own houses; even those who live in huts, the huts are their own, and there are consequently but few houses actually let, except in the immediate

No. 1.

Mr. John Carr,
27th July, 1836.

neighbourhood of the large Bazars. I must allow that I do not feel the same confidence in my valuation of houses occupied by Natives, as in those occupied by Europeans. We often do not see the whole of the premises, as Natives will not allow us to see the parts occupied by their females. I do not however see how the present plan is to be improved, there must be some impartial person, to go between the Tax-payer and the Collector. The Natives have no proof of the value of their houses, that is, what they could let them for, and even if they did let them, they must allow that, under the prejudices they have against living in a house, which they hire, the rent they could obtain, would be much under what the houses are really worth.

No. 2.

Mr. Rowland Graham,
27th July, 1836.

No. 2.

27th July, 1836.

Mr. Rowland Graham, examined.

Q. 1. How long have you been an Assessor, of House Tax?—*A.* I have held the situation of Second Assessor, since December, 1831.

Q. 2. What Divisions are under your charge?—*A.* The first and third Divisions.

Q. 3. How many houses, &c. are there in the first and third Divisions, and what is the quarterly amount of Tax in each?—*A.* I do not know the number of houses, huts, &c. it would take some time to count them. The first Division comprises all houses and huts from Mutchua Bazar to the end of Baug Bazar, which are taxed at the quarterly sum of Sa. Rs. 15,106-4—and the third Division, those from Durrumtollah Street to Bow Bazar Street, which are taxed at the quarterly sum of Sa. Rs. 17,920-5-3. The first Division is inhabited by the Native population, and the third by Europeans and Natives.

Q. 4. Do you find any difficulty in forming a correct valuation of the houses and other description of premises under assessment?—*A.* No. In the Native part of the Town, I generally experience delay, in prevailing upon the Natives to allow me to look at that part of the premises occupied by the females, from the entrance door of the inner, or zennanah, square—Native houses generally consist of two squares, viz. the outer, or public square, the inner, the zennanah.

Q. 5. When your valuation of premises is objected to, by Agents, or Landlords, upon what grounds do you form your valuation?—*A.* By comparing them with similar premises, in similar situations, and value in the Division.

Q. 6. What is the average value of Native houses?—*A.* I cannot say, nor do I think it can be ascertained with any degree of correctness, without classing the houses, which would be attended with some expense.

Q. 7. What is the cause of the decrease of Tax in the Native part of the Town?—A. The general decrease in value of property which commenced about the time of the failure of the Agency houses.

No. 2.

Mr. Rowland Graham,
27th July, 1836.

Q. 8. What remuneration do you receive?—A. A salary of Sa. Rs. 300 per month, and 30 more for my Division Sircars. I have no allowance for office rent, nor for the purchase of desks.

Q. 9. What portion of your time is occupied in discharging the duties of Assessor?—A. The mornings and evenings, that is to say, in examining houses from day light to nine, half-past nine or ten o'clock in the morning, and from half-past three or four o'clock to dusk in the evening. Mornings and evenings being the only time the inhabitants are to be met with at home. On Saturdays, in Sessions I attend the Police with my Reports on premises, for which applications have been made, to lay before the Chief Magistrate for confirmation, when the inhabitants are requested to attend to hear the same, and if objected to, to produce evidence in confirmation of their respective applications. After Sessions is closed, I am engaged in the middle of the day, preparing a Report of all that has been done in Sessions, for the confirmation of the Magistrates, a day or two previous to opening the ensuing Sessions, and in making a Memorandum and valuation on all new premises, or alterations in premises, for the purpose of giving notice to the respective owners at the opening of the ensuing Sessions of the Tax intended to be levied on each. And I am at all times, from ten o'clock till half-past three or four, ready to give the inhabitants information respecting their houses, &c. and at the Magistrates' command when required.

Q. 10. Do you derive information from your Sircars?—A. Yes; when they meet with any alteration in premises in their respective Divisions, that may have escaped my notice, and assistance in explaining to the Natives the necessity of their allowing me to see the zennanah part of the premises, from the entrance door, to form a correct idea of the value. And if I am not satisfied with the view I have from the door, I am frequently allowed to advance a few steps into the square.

Q. 11. Have you Assessed all the property in the Divisions under your charge, which are liable to Assessment?—A. I have.

Q. 12. Can you suggest any improvement in the mode of Assessment?—A. None, except that the Tax on houses of small value, not exceeding from 60 Rupees to 80 Rupees rent per month, should remain at the present rate, and all above that rent be taxed at 6 per cent.

Q. 13. Do you think the Tax in the Native part of the Town could be increased?—A. No; I consider the Tax is levied on the Native part of the Town at its present full valuation, and liable to decrease.

No. 3.

Rajkissore Set,
30th July, 1836.

No. 3.

30th July, 1836.

Rajkissore Set, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am head writer in Collector of Assessment Captain Birch's Office.

Q. 2. How long have you been employed in the Collector of Assessment's Office?—*A.* For fifteen or sixteen years. I have served under Mr. Macleod, Mr. Money, Captain Steel and Captain Birch.

Q. 3. Who collects the House Tax?—*A.* It is collected by the Collecting Sirkars of the different Divisions.

Q. 4. How many Divisions are there?—*A.* Four.

Q. 5. Can you state the number of Sirkars employed for collecting in each Division, and their names?—*A.* Yes, Ramsabuck Mookerjee, Essurchunder Chowdery, and Purnaud Sirkar, are Collecting Sirkars, of the First Division; Ramhurry Roy, and Ramessur Roy, of the Second, Nimchund Bonerjee, of the Third, and Coylas Chunder Chowdery, of the Fourth Division, in all Seven Sirkars, who have the collection of all the Assessment Bills.

Q. 6. What is your duty?—*A.* I make up Quarterly Statements, attend the Police to obtain Summons, and Dstraint Warrants against the defaulters, and attend the Magistrates, to give requisite information, when the causes are heard and decided.

Q. 7. Who makes out the Assessment Bills?—*A.* The Bills are made out by Writers under me from the copy of the Assessors' Division Books, and being signed by the Collector of Assessment are delivered to the Bill-keeper, who distributes them amongst the Collecting Sirkars for collection.

Q. 8. How, and by whom, are the Bills collected and brought to account?—*A.* The Collecting Sirkars, collect the Bills, and the sums collected during the quarter, are remitted from time to time, to the Collector's Office, with a Report, and brought to account, and entered in the Bengallee Books, by the Bill-keeper and his Mohurer. I make up my Quarterly Statements from those Books and Reports.

Q. 9. How do you get a copy of the Assessors' Division Books?—*A.* The Assessors deliver the Division Books to the Magistrates and we get a copy thereof from the Clerk of the Peace, and two Writers under me, make out the Quarterly Bills from that copy.

Q. 10. In what language and character are the Quarterly Assessment Bills made out?—*A.* In the English language and character. In Mr. Money's time, there

used to be some Bengallee writing on the Bills, which is omitted since Captain Steel succeeded him in the Office of the Collector of Assessment.

No. 3.
Rajkissore Set,
30th July, 1830.

Q. 11. When the Bills are made out by the two Writers under you, what then takes place in regard to putting them in circulation for collection?—*A.* As soon as the Bills are made out, they are handed to the Collector of Assessment for signature, when signed, they are sent to the Bill-keeper by the Collector, and the Bill-keeper delivers them to the Collecting Sirkars of the Division, as I have stated before.

Q. 12. Do the Collecting Sirkars you have named, collect the Assessment both from Europeans and Natives?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 13. What check is there upon the Collecting Sirkars in respect to the amounts collected, and remitted to the Collector's Office?—*A.* At the end of every quarter, a balance is struck between the amount of the Bills delivered to the respective Collecting Sirkars of the Divisions, and the amount remitted by them respectively, and they are obliged either to pay the money, or produce uncollected Bills, to the Bill-keeper for the amount of balance appearing against them respectively

Q. 14. Does Captain Birch see the unrealized Bills, when the adjustment you have mentioned, takes place?—*A.* No; he merely sees the accounts kept in the names of the different Collecting Sirkars.

Q. 15. Then the examination of the accuracy, and non-accuracy of the Collecting Sirkars accounts, remains with the Bill-keeper?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 16. Is there not always, a large outstanding balance of unrealised Bills, from year to year, and if so, who examines the accuracy of that account, with the Bills on hand of the Collecting Sirkars?—*A.* The examination of it also rests with the Bill-keeper.

Q. 17. Is the Bill-keeper under you?—*A.* No; he is under the Serishtadar Parbuttychurn Mookerjee, who is security for the Bill-keeper.

Q. 18. Do you know what security the Bill-keeper gives to the Serishtadar?—*A.* I do not know.

Q. 19. What is the duty of the Serishtadar?—*A.* All money transactions pass through him—he does not check the Bills.

Q. 20. How many Writers are there in Collector of Assessment's Office?—*A.* Eight, including myself.

Q. 21. What is the salary of the Serishtadar?—*A.* Seventy Rupees per month.

Q. 22. What is the salary of the Bill-keeper?—*A.* Twelve Rupees per month.

No. 3.

Rajkiasore Set,
30th July, 1836.

Q. 23. Do you ever compare the balance with the outstanding Bills?—A. I do not. It is the business of the Bill-keeper.

Q. 24. Under what circumstances do you apply to the Police, for the process of Summons against defaulters?—A. When four or five Bills are in arrear, we serve the parties with a notice from the Collector's Office, to pay the amount by a certain day, and if the amount remains unpaid by that day, we apply to the Magistrates for Summons.

No. 4.

Mr. John Street,
30th July, 1836.

No. 4.

30th July, 1836.

John Street, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—A. I am a Constable attached to the Assessment Department, since September 1835. I was formerly in H. M. 38th, and subsequently a Writer in the Office of the Collector of Moorshedabad. I went to England with Mr. Travers, and on my return to this country, upon application to Mr. McFarlan, I obtained my present situation.

Q. 2. Have you served many Warrants of Distress?—A. A good many in the different Divisions of the Town.

Q. 3. Can you say any thing about the Collection of Assessment?—A. I know only of the Collections under Warrants of Distress.

Q. 4. Do you serve Warrants on all classes of inhabitants?—A. Yes, on Europeans, Natives, and East Indians.

Q. 5. Upon what arrears of payment of the Tax, are Warrants of Distress issued?—A. I believe upon the arrear of fourth, or fifth Bill.

Q. 6. Do you find any difficulty in executing the Warrants?—A. I find no difficulty with Europeans, they settle by payment of the amount due, on the serving of the Warrant, as also do some East Indians, but some of the Warrants against that class I return as unexecuted, on not finding any property in the house. Of the great number of Warrants of Distress against the Natives, I have, under some of them, sold property, such as brass Lotahs, Vessels, Tuktaposes and other property, which I may have been able to take out of the premises, but in some instances I have found it difficult to get at any property of the Natives, because we cannot get in to the Zunanah, and the property of the defaulters are generally concealed there. The rich Baboos generally pay with some exceptions. I have two Warrants against Muddoosoodun Bannerjee, the son of Beer Bhuder Bannerjee,—Muddoosoodun is

employed in a Government Office (I believe the Calcutta Collector's) at a salary of 150 Rupees a month. In Mr. Trower's time, he promised to pay 150 Rupees from his next month's salary, which he never did. There are other Warrants now existing against him, but cannot be realised. He lives in a good house, which is assessed at a valuation of 70 Rupees per month. He has the appearance of a man of property. I had a Warrant of Distress in my hands, against Nubinchunder Bose, of Bulram Ghose's Street, for Rupees 335, which I could not realise, as I could not get into the premises, there is a balance of 1300 to 1500 Rupees against him. Once a Constable in attempting to enter his premises, to execute a Warrant, was beaten. There is a large balance due, against the house of the late Rajah Rajbullub. Warrants of Distress are out, but cannot be executed, in consequence of the Constables not being able to enter the premises.

No. 4.
Mr. John Street,
30th July, 1836.

Q. 7. What is the lowest amount, for which you have distrained property under Warrants?—A. For as small a sum, as twelve annas.

Q. 8. What are the costs of Distraining?—A. On all sums under 5 Rupees, Rupees 1-4,—on all sum from 5 to under 10 Rupees, Rupees 2-8,—on 10 Rupees and all sums above that, Rupees 5. There is a charge besides, for Ticca Peons, if left on the premises, at four annas a day each.

Q. 9. What remuneration do you get, for the execution of the Warrants of Distress?—A. I get no salary—I only receive the fees I have just now mentioned, upon realisation under Warrants, which amounts from 50 to 60 Rupees a month.

No. 5.

30th July, 1836.

William Andrews, Examined.

No. 5.
Mr William Andrews,
30th July, 1836.

Q. 1. What are you?—A. I am a Constable, attached to the Assessment Department, and have been so, since May 1834. I am employed to serve Warrants of Distress.

Q. 2. Can you state any instance of difficulty, or obstruction in the execution of your duty?—A. In October 1834, on attempting to execute a Distrainment Warrant, on Premises No. 58, Buloram Ghose's Street, I was beaten by the direction of one Nobin Chunder Bose, by a large mob of about 150 men. I reported the circumstance to the Magistrates, and as the Warrant of Distress was directed against Seeb Chunder Bose, both of these men were summoned to appear before the Magistrates and fined.

Q. 3. In realising the Tax under Warrants of Distress, from what class of inhabitants, do you experience difficulty?—A. I have Warrants, both against Euro-

No. 5.

Mr. William Andrews,
30th July, 1836.

peas and Natives, mostly against Natives. I experience no difficulty in realising from Europeans, but with Natives I experience difficulties. As soon as they find out, that Warrants of Distress are out against them, they conceal their property in the Zunnanah, and we cannot get at them; some of the Natives against whom the Warrants are issued, are really poor, and have no means of satisfying the demand; in such cases, in returning the Warrant, I make remark of the circumstance on the back of them. (Corroborates Street's statement, as to remuneration.)

No. 6.

Mr. William Jackson,
30th July, 1836.

30th July, 1836.

William Jackson, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—A. I am a Constable, attached to the Assessment Department, and have been so for the last five years.

Q. 2. Do you find any difficulty in executing Warrants of Distress?—A. In executing the Warrants against Europeans, I do not find any difficulty, the demand is settled by payment. I sometimes experience difficulty with East Indians. I have met with forcible obstruction, and concealment of property from that class. In executing the Warrants against Natives, I experience difficulty, and sometimes obstruction. An instance occurred last week. In executing a Distrain Warrant on Premises No. 31, Ramkanto Bose's Street, I took a Sirkar with me, and also the Thanadar and Chokeydars of the Division, under an apprehension of obstruction. On the Sirkar's entering the premises, some of the people of the house, shut up the gate, and, tying the Sirkar, began to beat him. Upon his crying out for help, I and the Thanadar pushed the gate, and on my attempting to enter, I was jammed between the shutters and bruised. The Thanadar and Chowkeedars, then with force pushed the gate open, and I was relieved. The Thanadar got hold of the Durwan of the premises, and dragged him to the street, but as the man was both old, and infirm, I told the Thanadar to let him go. Subsequently, one Cossinath Bose came on the spot, and said he would pay the demand of the Warrant, but no damage for the injury I had sustained. I told him he had better come before Mr. McFarlan, and do what he may say. I reported the case to the Police, and a Warrant was issued against Cossinath Bose. The case is still pending. I had orders from Captain Birch to apply for assistance to the Thanadar and Chokeydars of the Division, in cases of obstruction, or breach of peace.

Q. 3. You have stated that you sometimes experience difficulty and obstruction from East Indians, do you mean low country-borns?—A. Yes. (Corroborates Street, as to remuneration.)

No. 7.

30th July, 1836.

Joseph Shuldham, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am a Constable, in the Assessment Department, and have been so, for the last two months.

Q. 2. Have you had any Warrants of Distress to execute?—*A.* Several, but no dispute or quarrel in the execution of them, except with one Baboo, at Dingabhangah, whose name I have in my Memorandum Book. He threatened to give me battle, in case I attempted to seize his Buggy. I have distrained some property, under the Warrants put into my hands.

No. 8.

3d August, 1836.

Juggomohun Soor, examined.

Q. 1. How long have you been employed under the Assessors of the Town of Calcutta?—*A.* Since 1795, and I resigned on account of old age, about two years ago.

Q. 2. Who was the Assessor in 1795?—*A.* Mr. Mackey; he was succeeded by Major Gall, who was succeeded by Mr. Laprimaudaye in 1808.

Q. 3. Upon what principle had Mr. Mackey formed his valuation of houses for the purpose of Assessment?—*A.* He valued them according to his best knowledge, and judgment, by examining the value of the buildings and land, separately. The value of the buildings and land, on the Main Roads, he used to take at a higher rate, than those in the inner Streets and Lanes, and upon those valuations he calculated interest, at the rate of six per cent, per annum, which he took as the annual produce of the premises, for Assessment. On the houses inhabited by the Proprietors, and less liable to become unoccupied, he used to make some allowance, that is, to calculate interest at something lower.

Q. 4. How long was the collection of House Tax, made upon Mr. Mackey's valuation?—*A.* Up to the year 1807.

Q. 5. How many petitions were presented by the house-holders against Mr. Mackey's valuation?—*A.* Only twenty-one.

Q. 6. When, and by whom, was a new Assessment made?—*A.* In 1809 by Mr. Laprimaudaye.

No. 7.

Mr. Joseph Shuldham,
30th July, 1836.

No. 8.

Juggomohun Soor,
3d August, 1836.

No. 8.

Juggomohun Soor,
3d August, 1836.

Q. 7. Upon what principle did Mr. Laprimaudaye form his valuation?—*A.* Mr. Laprimaudaye took Mr. Mackey's Book, as the foundation, made increases, where there were additional or new buildings, and reduction, where the property was demolished or went to ruin.

Q. 8. Did Mr. Laprimaudaye's valuation cause any encrease of Assessment?—*A.* Yes, a considerable encrease.

Q. 9. Mr. Laprimaudaye's Assessment you say was exactly on the same principle as that of Mr. Mackey's?—*A.* Yes, on the same principle. In cases of additional and new buildings, he made corresponding encrease.

Q. 10. How long was the collection of House Tax made upon Mr. Laprimaudaye's Assessment?—*A.* Up to 1819. There were encreases and reductions during that period, according to circumstances.

Q. 11. When was a new Assessment made after this?—*A.* In 1819 the Magistrates ordered a new Assessment of the Town, and told Mr. Laprimaudaye to complete it within six months; but in consequence of his pleading inability to go through the work within so short a period, four new Assessors were appointed by the Magistrates.

Q. 12. Can you state their names?—*A.* Yes; Mr. Sumner, Mr. Osborne, Mr. LeHerondale, and Mr. Burn.

Q. 13. Did they Assess the Town anew?—*A.* Yes, as they Assessed the houses in the different Divisions of the Town, they regularly forwarded their reports to Mr. Laprimaudaye, who made entries of the Assessment in his Book.

Q. 14. Did Mr. Laprimaudaye, in making up his Book, adopt the valuations of these Assessors?—*A.* Mr. Laprimaudaye adopted their valuation, and made up his Book accordingly, which was approved of by the Magistrates.

Q. 15. Upon what principle did these four new Assessors form their valuations?—*A.* They also took Mr. Mackey's old Book as their guide, and encreased and reduced upon their own guess.

Q. 16. Was there a Sircar with each of these Assessors, to assist them in forming the valuations?—*A.* Yes, I was with Mr. Sumner, my brother with Mr. Burn, and the other two Assessors had each a Sircar of his own.

Q. 17. Were the valuations of these Assessors correctly formed?—*A.* Mr. Sumner's valuation was accurate. He valued Rooploll Mullick's house on the Chitpore Road at Sicca Rupees 600 per month, now it is reduced to Sicca Rupees 300.

Q. 18. Did you assist Mr. Sumner in forming his valuation?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 19. In case of difference of opinion between you and Mr. Sumner, what did he do?—*A.* We generally agreed in the valuation; sometimes we differed in a trifling amount, which was easily explained by further enquiry.

No. 8.
Juggomohun Soor,
2d August, 1836.

Q. 20. Did the Sircars of the other Assessors, assist them in forming their valuations?—*A.* The other gentlemen also used to take the opinions of their respective Sircars, but there was great confusion in their valuations.

Q. 21. Was the valuation of property under the new Assessment of 1819, increased comparatively with the former rates?—*A.* The first division was Assessed by Mr. Sumner and myself, and the valuation of property therein was increased, and although the Assessment on property in the other three divisions, were also increased, yet the premises were not properly valued, some were valued very much too high, and others very much too low: It was an inaccurate valuation.

Q. 22. Can you give any instance of the inaccuracy you have just mentioned?—*A.* Yes, Noyanchand Bose's house, in Soba Bazar Street, was formerly valued according to Mr. Mackey's Book, at Sicca Rupees 40 per month. There were additions to the building since the first Assessment, and Mr. LeHerrondale valued it at Sicca Rupees 250 per month, Noyauchand petitioned against the advanced valuation, and the Magistrates reduced it to Sicca Rupees 200 per month. At the sitting of the last Police Committee he again petitioned, and the case was referred to Mr. Laprimaudaye, who reduced the valuation, and fixed it at Sicca Rupees 80 per month.

Q. 23. You said Mr. Sumner had the Assessing of the first Division, and the Soba Bazar Street being within that Division, how came Noyanchand Bose's house in that Street, to be valued by Mr. LeHerrondale?—*A.* Mr. Sumner had too much on hand, and therefore transferred some part of his business to Mr. LeHerrondale, after the latter had completed the Assessment of his own Division.

Q. 24. Can you give an instance of under-valuation?—*A.* In Durmahatta Street there were four or five Golahs, which paid ground rent alone to the proprietor of the land, Sicca Rupees 110 per month; so the rent of those Golahs might fairly have been rated at Sicca Rupees 210 per month: They were valued by Mr. LeHerrondale at Sicca Rupees 50 per month.

Q. 25. Are there several instances of such inaccuracies?—*A.* Several.

Q. 26. What happened next?—*A.* Three of the new Assessors were discharged, and Mr. LeHerrondale and Mr. Laprimaudaye were retained as permanent Assessors of two Divisions each, viz. Mr. Laprimaudaye of the second and fourth Divisions, and Mr. LeHerrondale of the first and third. Mr. Laprimaudaye was put over the Division Assessed by Mr. LeHerrondale.

Q. 27. Were there many ~~petitions~~ against the new Assessment of 1819?—*petitioners*
A. Many, and almost all the petitions obtained reduction in the value of their premises.

No. 4.

Juggomohun Soor,
3d August, 1836.

Q. 28. Was there any new Assessment since that of 1819?—*A.* No, but there are considerable reductions in the value of premises, allowed by the Magistrates.

Q. 29. Did you ever attend the Police Office to give information to the Magistrates, on the subject of Assessment?—*A.* I used to attend the Police Office, but Mr. Laprimaudaye would not allow me to speak to the Magistrates.

Q. 30. Have you a fair knowledge of the value of houses, and huts, in the Town?—*A.* I have, having been employed in the Assessment Department for a long time.

Q. 31. Do you think the valuation put upon the houses and huts, are just, and proper?—*A.* I think the value at present put upon the huts, tiled and straw built, is proper, but some of the brick built houses are over valued. The prices at which the houses could have been sold at Mr. Mackey's time, cannot now be obtained for them—great many of the Native houses still pay the same Tax as formerly—the inhabitants of Baug Bazar and Shaum Bazar, are generally impoverished.

Q. 32. Subsequent to the new Assessment of 1819, did not some of the householders obtain reductions in the value of their premises, by shewing examples of the reduction of rent, of the houses in the European part of the Town?—*A.* Yes, Rooploll Mullick, and some others obtained such reductions, by the examples mentioned.

Q. 33. Can you suggest any improvement in the Assessment?—*A.* I think the amount can easily be increased by an augmentation of per centage, on all kind of Shops, without inconvenience.

Q. 34. Do you think the valuation of premises in Burra Bazar, is properly made?—*A.* Yes.

No. 9.

6th August, 1836.

Dyalchund Bonnerjee, examined.

No. 9.

Dyalchund Bonnerjee, 6th August, 1836.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am Bill Keeper in the Assessment Department, and have been employed in the Collector of Assessment's Office, since Feb. 1834.

Q. 2. Who was Bill Keeper before you?—*A.* Ramjeebun Bonerjee was the Bill Keeper before me, under Singhee Baboo, while he was Dewan of the Collector of Assessment's Office. In consequence of some confusion in the accounts, Singhee Baboo was removed from the Office. At that time, Captain Steel abolished the Office of the Bill Keeper, and resolved to deliver the Bills directly to the Collecting Sirkars, through the Serishtadar. I was first employed as the Head Mohurer, and in the month of September 1835, Captain Steel ordered that I should take charge of the Bills which were to be sent to the Summons Department. About that time the Serishtadar was also directed to take charge of all the Bills in the first instance, and in distributing them amongst the Collecting Sirkars, to take their Promissory Notes for the amount of the Bills delivered, in the form of the one I beg to submit (copy of the Note submitted) *Sz. Rs. 13,557-10-1, Division No. 7, Calcutta, the 1st February 1836.*

I promise to pay, on demand, to F. W. Birch, Esq. Collector of Assessment, or order, the sum of Sicca Rupees Thirteen Thousand, Five Hundred and Fifty-seven, and Ten Annas and One Gunda, for value received in Bills for collection of House Tax, which Bills I received in Cash.

(Signed in Bengallee) KOYLASCHUNDER CHOWDERY,

Sum of Thirteen Thousand, Five Hundred Fifty-seven,
Ten Annas One Gunda only.

Witness—Three in Number.

The Serishtadar entrusts the custody and distribution of the Bills to me. At the end of every quarter an account is made up with the Collecting Sirkars, the sums realised and remitted by the Justices being taken to Credit, a Balance is struck, and for the amount of which, as well as for the amount of the new quarter's Bills, separate Promissory Notes are taken from the Collecting Sirkars. These Notes are never returned to them cancelled, on adjustment of account.

Q. 3. Who compares the Bills remaining unrealized in the hands of the Collecting Sirkars, at the time of adjustment of their quarterly accounts?—*A.* Either I, or one of my two Sirkars, compare every Bill in the hands of the Collecting Sirkars, with the balance exhibited against them respectively, and with the list they furnish at the end of each quarter.

Q. 4. Do you again examine the Bills at the end of the year?—*A.* No, the Collecting Sirkars' accounts are always settled quarterly, and not at the end of the year.

No. 9.

Dyalchund Banner-
jee, 6th August, 1836

Q. 5. Does the Collector of Assessment examine the unrealised Bills?—A. No, on an Adjustment of account taking place with the Collecting Sirkars in Bengallee, I get it translated into English, by one of the English Writers (an account in Bengallee and another in English submitted, and are as follows):

BENGALLEE ACCOUNT.

1st Division, 1st Number.—Ramsabuc Mookhopadhia, 39th Quarter's account, from November 1835 to January 1836, date 15th March, 1836.

CREDIT BILLS.			DEBIT BILLS.		
39th Quarters Com- pany's Bills,	Rs. 8.....	As. G. 12 3 12	38th Quarters ac- count Balance,	Rs. 4204...	As. G. 9280 9 17
Sent in Nov. Dec. and Jan.	1897...4623	4 1	39th Quarters present Bills,...	2018...4810	9 4
Office Summons to Bissumbhur Chut- topadhya,	443....747	7 2			
Alter reduction Nov. Dec. and Jan. ...	56....158	13 14			
	2404...5541	12 9		6222...14091	3 1
Sent in February,...	403...1061	2 4	Deduct Collections, &c. Nov. Dec. and Jan.	2404...5541	12 9
From 1 to 15 March,	107....408	8 8		3818...8549	6 12
	510...1469	10 12	Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighteen Bills.....	Sum of Eight Thou- sand and Five Hundred and Forty-nine Rupees Six Annas Twelve Gun- das only.	
Alter reduction	0.....0	0 0	Deduct existing Bills, &c.	3783...8473	15 16
Office Summons Feb.	2.....4	12 16		35.....75	6 16
Existing (on hand)	3271...6999	8 8	Dt.	35.....75	6 16
	3783...8473	15 16			
To Dyalchund Bon- dopadhya on ac- count of Collec- tion of old Bills remitted,	35.....75	6 16			

(ENGLISH ACCOUNT.)

Account of Sircar No. 1, 1st Division, Ramseuck Mookerjee, 15th March, 1836.

		Balance in the Office Book 1st March 1836.				Majoot.				Chaulaun after 1st March 1836.				Total Majoot and Chaulaun.				Balance 15th March, 1837.			
Year and Qrs.		Bills.		Amount.		Bills.		Amount.		Bills.		Amount.		Bills.		Amount.		Bills.		Amount.	
27	Qr	2	0 13	4	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	2	0 13	4				
28	Do	0	0 0	0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0	0				
29	Do.	0	0 0	0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0	0				
30	Do.	1	0 7	4	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	1	0 7	4						
31	Do.	0	0 0	0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0 0	0	0 0	0						
32	Do.	1	1 3	4	0	0 0 0	1	1 3	4	1	1 3	4	0	0 0	0						
33	Do	2	2 12	10	1	1 10 8	0	0 0 0	1	1 10 8	1	1 10 8	1	1 2	2						
34	Do.	17	12 2	16	1	1 10 8	0	0 0 0	1	1 10 8	10	10 8	8								
35	Do.	35	118 10	16	34	102 7 4	1	2 4	0	35	104 11 4	0	13 15	12							
36	Do	160	376 5	0	153	357 14 13	7	17 13	9	160	375 12 12	0	0 8	8							
37	Do.	554	1216 9	17	519	1098 15 11	22	113 14	2	541	1212 13 13	13	3 12	4							
38	Do.	1111	2431 2	13	1069	2360 4 1	39	127 15	0	1108	2428 3 1	3	2 15	12							
39	Do.	1634	3287 0	3	1494	3136 10 3	37	146 6	13	1531	3262 0 6	3	4 16	17							
Dt. Surplus from May 1834 to July 1835, ..		3411	7447 3	7	3271	6999 8 8	107	408 8	8	3378	7408 0 16	33	39 2	11 *							
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Q. 6. Does any person besides yourself examine the unrealised Bills on hand, with the balance exhibited against the Collecting Sirkars on adjustment of quarterly accounts?—*A.* No. The Bills are not examined by any other person except either myself or one of the Sirkars I have mentioned.

No 9.

Dyalchand Bonnerjee, 6th August, 1836.

Q. 7. What Security do you give to the Serishtadar?—A. I have given him no Security. I am a relation of his, and he is my Security to the Collector.

Q. 8. What Salary do you get?—A. Twelve Rupees a month.

Q. 9. By the account you have submitted, it appears that the amount of outstanding, is principally formed of Bills of the recent quarters, is that about the average of all the outstanding Bills?—A. Yes.

No. 9.
Dyalchund Bonnerjee,
6th August, 1836.

Q. 10. What is the duty of the Serishtadar?—*A.* He superintends the Collecting Department generally.

Q. 11. Are there any European Collectors?—*A.* No, the whole collection is entrusted to the Native Sirkars of the Divisions.

Q. 12. Do you ever deliver the Bills to any one but the Collecting Sirkars?—*A.* Yes, upon Distress Warrants being put into the hands of Constables, if they require the Bills for the realisation of the amount ordered to be levied, I deliver those Bills to them. There are two European Examiners of unoccupied premises, who sometimes take the Bills of Assessment for those premises, the notices of vacancy of which are referred to them for report, and after making their remarks upon the back of the Bills, they are returned to me in the course of a day or two.

Q. 13. Upon what arrear of payment, and under what circumstances are the Processes of Summons or Distrain Warrants issued by the Magistrates against defaulters?—*A.* When four or five Bills are in arrear, the Collecting Sirkars report the circumstance to the Serishtadar, who takes the Bills from them, and makes his report to the Collector. The Collector directs him to issue Office Summons or Notices against the defaulters to pay in the amount within a week. A Writer of the name of Tarruck Sikdar makes out the Summons, and when signed by the Collector they are delivered to the Summons Sirkars, to be served upon the parties they are directed to. Many of the parties attend on the appointed day at the Collector's Office, and pay off the claim. The Bills unsettled on that day remain with me, and Rajkisto Set is directed to make out Summonses for signature of the Magistrates for the amount of those Bills. As soon as the Summonses are drawn out and signed by the Magistrates, they are delivered to the Summons Sirkars for the purpose of being served on the defaulters. On the day appointed for their appearance, Rajkisto Set attends the Police Office with the Books, and I also attend with the Bills. I receive the amount as realised in the Police Office under the Summons, and enter in the Bengallee Summons Books the orders passed by the Magistrates on the occasion, for the unrealised balance of the Summons, the Magistrate's order either Remission or Warrant of Distress, according to the circumstances of the case.

Q. 14. Do you attend to any thing else besides what you have stated?—*A.* I write in Bengallee the Quarterly Statements of Collections, Remissions and Balances, and hand them to Rajkisto Set to be translated into English.

No. 10.

6th August, 1836.

No. 10.
Parbutty Churn
Mookerjee, 6th Au-
gust, 1836.

Parbutty Churn Mookerjee, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am Serishtadar of the Collector of Assessment's Office, and have been so for the last four years.

Q. 2. What Security have you given?—*A.* To the amount of Ten Thousand Rupees—Bissonauth Mottyloll is my Security.

Q. 3. What floating Cash Balance of the Assessment Collections remains in your hands?—*A.* I have generally a balance of collection money, of about Three or Four Thousand Rupees in my hands, and the Outstanding Bills in the hands of my Bill Keeper and the Collecting Sirkars, amount to about One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Rupees.

Q. 4. Where do you keep the floating Cash Balance?—*A.* In an Iron Chest in the Collector of the Assessment's Office.

Q. 5. What Security do the Division Collecting Sirkars give?—*A.* From Eight to Ten Thousand Rupees each.

Q. 6. What sort of Securities, and who examines and accepts them?—*A.* The Collecting Sirkars give Securities of Land Owners, either in Calcutta or in Muffusul. When a Security is offered, I examine it, and report to the Collector, who in his discretion either accepts or rejects it. Captain Steel always used to enquire after, and examine the offered Security himself.

Q. 7. What amount of Collection Money is remitted to the General Treasury from time to time, and how often?—*A.* We remit the Collection Money to the General Treasury from Two to Five Thousand Rupees, at intervals of two or three days.

Q. 8. Do you make Disbursements out of the Collection Money from your Office?—*A.* Yes, we pay the Establishment, Commissions, Office Rent and Contingent Charges, from the Collecting Funds.

Q. 9. What Salary do you get?—*A.* Seventy Rupees a month, out of which I pay Fifteen Rupees to two Sirkars, one of whom assists the Bill Keeper and the other occasionally goes out with Bills.

Q. 10. Do you think the collection can be improved?—*A.* If I get an Establishment of two or three more Sirkars I think the collection will be improved. My reason for thinking so, is this—the Division Collecting Sirkars have to go to many places for collection, and they cannot wait a long time, or frequently upon those who

No. 10.
Parbutty Churn
Mookerjee, 6th Au-
gust, 1836,

are in the habit of putting off payment. They are obliged to go to others, and especially to those who make prompt payment, with the view of getting money for remittance to the Collector's Office, because unless they remit from time to time the sums they are expected to send, the Collector imposes a fine upon them, consequently a large number of Bills accumulates against the unwilling pay-masters, and it becomes still more difficult to effect their realisation. If I could get these Bills put into the hands of extra Sirkars, to press payment, they could be more easily and promptly realised, than they are at present.

Q. 11. If Summonses are issued upon the arrear of one Bill, instead of four or five, as at present, do you think the collection will be improved?—*A.* Undoubtedly it will be a good plan. The Collector himself told me that it would be a good plan.

Q. 12. Why is it not adopted then?—*A.* We have not adopted it, because there used to be formerly in some instances ten or twelve Bills in arrear against one number, now it is reduced to one, two, three and four Bills.

Q. 13. Who authorizes the keeping back of the Bills in arrear?—*A.* Some times when the Collecting Sirkars are unable to realise regularly, I have authorized them to keep the Bills in arrear, to the extent I have mentioned.

Q. 14. If the system of the process of Summons upon the arrear of one Bill is adopted, do you think any mischief will result therefrom?—*A.* There will be no mischief to those who are able to pay, but those that are not able to pay must suffer. The favor of the Assessors towards the poor is proverbial. They have reduced the value of Chandney Bazar, and in many instances increased that of ruined premises.

Q. 15. Do you think the system will be an improvement?—*A.* Yes, as some times even the rich men keep back the payment of Bills, but there are men really poor who are quite unable to pay.

Q. 16. Do you think upon strict collection, the amount may be increased?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 17. To what extent?—*A.* I think under strict collection, by Summons, &c. there will be an increase from Eight to Ten Thousand Rupees per Quarter.

Q. 18. Will there be any mischief in adopting the system of strict collection?—*A.* No.

No. 11.

20th August, 1836.

Captain Frederick William Birch, examined.

No. 11.

Captain Frederick
William Birch,
20th August, 1836.

Q. 1. How long have you been the Superintendent of the Police of Calcutta?
—A. Since 1st January, 1836. I succeeded Captain Steel, who held the appointment from the year 1831.

Q. 2. Is the Collection of Assessment a part of the duties of the Superintendent of the Police?—A. Yes, the Superintendent of the Police was appointed Collector of Assessment, during the administration of Lord William Bentinck.

Q. 3. Is there always a large outstanding balance of the Assessment, from year to year?—A. Yes.

Q. 4. It has been stated in evidence here, that at the end of each quarter, when the Collecting Sirkars' accounts are adjusted, and balance struck, the uncollected Bills on hand, corresponding with that balance, are examined by the Bill-keeper of your Office. What adequate check is there against the Bill-keepers or the Collecting Sirkars, in connivance with each other, keeping back a part of the Collection money?—A. At the end of each quarter the Collecting Sirkars are called in, their accounts adjusted, and the Bills on hand of each, are examined with the balance exhibited against him, and if the Bills produced do not correspond with the balance, the Bills are taken from him altogether. It is not impossible for the Bill-keeper or the Collecting Sirkars, to keep back a part of the Collection money in connivance with each other. There is certainly no adequate check against this. The subject never struck me before in the same light which it does now, and I shall in future make arrangements for a proper check. I have always called upon the Collecting Sirkars for the production of the uncollected Bills, and trusted to the Serishtadar to have them properly examined with the balance. There are however the checks of the Serishtadar and myself, and I consider that I must place some confidence in my subordinates.

Q. 5. It has been further in evidence, that when four or five Bills are in arrear, a report is made to you of the circumstance, by the Serishtadar, for the purpose of taking out process against the defaulters, don't you think it would be proper, that such report should be made to you on the arrear of one Bill?—A. Certainly, it would be a very proper course. If the report is made, and process taken out on the arrear of one Bill, the collection would be more easy. It would also be a convenience to the payer, and if it is understood to be the practice to have the process out on the arrear of one Bill, the necessity of frequent process would not exist, and in my opinion this would be a more effectual and just course.

Q. 6. Why don't you adopt it?—A. It has been found impossible to adopt it as a general rule, as yet, in consequence of the many heavy arrears, but I am bringing it into use as speedily as circumstances will allow. My present intention is to

No. 11.

Captain Frederick
William Birch,
29th August, 1838.

enforce payment on the arrear of the first Bill where there is no old outstanding, and to wipe off the whole of the old Bills, under process by realisation, as far as possible, and by cancelling those that are irrecoverable. This would make the account more clear than it is at present.

Q. 7. Do the Distraining Constables experience any difficulty in recovering the levy under Distress Warrants from the rich Baboos?—A. They do; the execution is sometimes obstructed by force.

Q. 8. What course would you recommend to be adopted for the efficient execution of Distress Warrants?—A. While defaulters have the power of removing their property into the Zananah Muhul, it is impossible for us to get at them. Two modes appear to me calculated to remove this difficulty,—one the power of entering the Zananah, and the other the power to sell the doors and windows. The Zananah is a mere bug-bear. If the defaulters knew that the Magistrates have power to authorize the entrance, they would pay the demand without making difficulty, and I think there would be no injustice in entering the Zananah, if the parties were aware of the existence of such a power. No Officer or Constable ought to have the power of entering the Zananah, without the authority of two Magistrates. But besides these, the best and specific course of removing all difficulties to the recovery from defaulters, is the power of proceeding against them in the Court of Requests, by the process of which, their persons could be taken.

Q. 9. If the law gave you power to take the person of the defaulter after the return of the Warrant of Distress, don't you think that would be a better remedy?—A. Decidedly so, the process would then be more easy and save delay. If the Warrants of Distress were made more general to seize the goods of the defaulter wherever found, instead of only those upon the premises in arrear, as at present, the levy would be more easily recoverable from rich men.

Q. 10. Can you suggest any other mode of efficient collection?—A. I have turned over in my mind every difficulty which suggested itself. The Native Sirkars have power to make money by extortion, that cannot be avoided. The Natives generally have prejudices, or are afraid to come to Court, and taking advantage thereof, I believe the Collecting Sirkars do extort money from those who are not prompt paymasters, by threatening to report the arrear to the Collector, and the consequent process, unless something was paid to them for forbearance.

Q. 11. How many Distrain Constables are there?—A. Four—all Europeans; the best of them by name Street, makes from one hundred to one hundred and thirty Rupees a month in costs arising in the execution of Distress Warrants. The second, Andrew, about ninety; the third, Johnson; and the fourth, Shuldham, I do not think make more than forty Rupees a month each.

Q. 12. Is that the only remuneration they get?—A. That is the whole of their support; they get no salary; Street keeps two Buggy Horses to enable him to perform his duties efficiently,

Q. 13. Have they any other duties to perform except the execution of Distrain Warrants?—*A.* No; Street within the last month is appointed by me to a vacant situation of an Examiner of empty houses, at a salary of one hundred Rupees a month, but since the appointment, the Chief Magistrate has intimated, that he must not levy by distress, in the Division in which he is the Examiner.

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Captain Frederick
William Birch, 90th
August, 1836:

Q. 14. Do you think the mode of paying the Distrain Constables by fees or per centage upon the amount levied by distress, is the best that can be adopted?—*A.* Yes; because they then have greater incitement to exertion.

Q. 15. Do you think the Assessment of the Town is fairly made?—*A.* I do not think it fair to Tax the poorer class in the same ratio with the rich. I think, if yearly, during the month of December, an Estimate of the Police expenses for the ensuing year were made, and Assessment levied according to that, it would be less liable to objection. I mean the House and Abkaree Taxes so raised as to meet the whole expenses of the Police. The Assessment in that case of course would vary and be greater than at present,—no class is to be exempted. The huts are now assessed in a lump of several, as one number.

Q. 16. Can you offer any further observations upon the whole matter under consideration?—*A.* I am now taking a correct Census of the population and the houses of Calcutta; when it is completed, which I hope will be in a few days, I will submit the Statement to the Committee, with such observations as may then occur to me.

Q. 17. Is the collection from all classes made by Natives?—*A.* Yes; but I think it would be a better mode to employ both Natives and Europeans. Natives in the first instance, and on their failure Europeans, and I am about to make the experiment.

Q. 18. How many Sirkars do you employ for collection in the Four Divisions?—*A.* Seven; who employ others under their own control—about twenty-four more.

Q. 19. What remuneration do they get?—*A.* One and a half per cent. on the sums actually collected by them.

No. 12.

David McFarlan, Esq.
22d August, 1836.

No. 12.

22nd August, 1836.

David McFarlan, Esq. examined.

Q. 1. Are you the Chief Magistrate of Calcutta?—*A.* Yes, and have been so for about six years.

Q. 2. As the Chief Magistrate, have you specific control over the Assessment and the Collector of Assessments' Departments?—*A.* I have no specific control over the Assessors or their appointment. The Magistrates in Sessions appoint them, and have control over them. The Superintendent of Police, under orders of Government, is the Collector of Assessment, and is not under my control. In fact, as Chief Magistrate I have no judicial control over him legally, but practically I have, as the petitions received by the Clerk of the Peace for reduction of Assessment, &c. come to me, and, as Chief Magistrate, I am bound to see that the peoples' complaints are attended to.

Q. 3. Do you exercise no control over the Assessors or the Collector of Assessment?—*A.* If I saw that the Assessors were not doing their duty, I would bring it to the notice of the Sessions, and in the same way if I found slackness in the collection, I would send to enquire the cause, thus practically I have some control. The Quarterly Statements of Collections I send up to Government, and it is my duty to point out defects, explain the cause of short collection, and recommend improvements.

Q. 4. Do the other Magistrates exercise any control over the Assessment Department?—*A.* They do not. Government do not expect them to do so, but I am always happy to accept their assistance, if offered.

Q. 5. It appears, that the two Assessors employed, perform their duties in the mornings and evenings. Do you think that the time devoted is sufficient to go through the business efficiently?—*A.* We require the services of two Assessors. The Sessions are now held quarterly, while formerly they used to be held once a year, or once in two years.

Q. 6. We wish to know, whether the time allotted by the Assessors Mr. Carr and Mr. Graham, is sufficient for the purpose of performing their duties efficiently. In the day time Mr. Carr is engaged in a Mercantile House, and Mr. Graham as an Attorney of the Supreme Court. Whether with those occupations they are able to perform the duties of Assessors properly?—*A.* The Assessors take two Divisions of the Town each. They go out in the mornings and evenings, assisted by Sirkars. The Assessment I think is properly made. I am not aware of premises being undervalued, and in cases of over-valuation, one can rely upon the parties seeking reduction themselves. I think if you had one Assessor, and he was to give the whole of his time to the business, the thing would be hurried. In 1822, when Mr. Shakespear was Chief Magistrate, I proposed to Government that there should be two Assessors instead of one.

Q. 7. The question is not asked on the principle of economy. We wish to be informed whether the two Assessors devoting only a part of their time for Assessment, can perform the duties efficiently?—A. If we could get a man to devote the whole of his time, I think the duties may be performed by one. A man at a salary of three or four hundred Rupees, to devote the whole of his time, would not I think be sufficiently paid. The business is not ministerial at all, it is in a great measure judicial. In a multitude of cases there is nothing to go upon but opinion. In such cases, it is of first importance that the person who delivers the opinion should be above suspicion, if you increase the salary to six hundred Rupees you might get a proper person to devote the whole of his time to the business, and he might probably perform the duties as efficiently, or as well as at present; but we should be liable to embarrassment if he were sick. At present one Assessor assists the other on occasions of sickness, or necessary absence.

Q. 8. Have you any suggestions to offer upon the present system, or for its improvement?—A. No; I think the system is good on general principles. I should be against double employment, but in this particular case of double employment, the arrangement is probably the cheapest and best.

Q. 9. The Superintendent of the Police, is ex-officio the Collector of Assessment. The Bills for Assessment on being signed by him, are delivered over to the Serishtadar or Bill-keeper of his Office, for the purpose of being distributed to the Collecting Sirkars. At the end of each quarter, the Collecting Sirkars render their accounts, the balances of which are examined with the Bills on hand, by the Bill-keeper or one of his under Sirkars, and the Bill-keeper makes his return of the correctness of the accounts. What adequate check is there against the Bill-keepers making a false return?—A. It is the duty of the Collector of Assessment to examine the uncollected Bills. I don't see any other adequate check but the Collectors own examination: he is responsible for the Bills. I have always been in the habit of taking statements furnished by the Collector as correct returns. It is my opinion that the Collector ought to see, and be thoroughly assured, that the stated arrear, really corresponds to the Bills on hand.

Q. 10. It has been in evidence, that, under the present system, the Distress Warrants are not sufficiently effectual in the recovery of the levy, because the Executing Officers could not get property to seize, either in consequence of its being concealed in the Zunanah, or of obstruction by force. What remedy would you propose for this?—A. I was urged by Captain Steel to get a law passed, authorising by its process, the enforcement of payment by taking up the persons of the defaulters, but I thought this would be a very hard measure. I considered the authority to enter the Zunanah would be the best remedy, which again Captain Steel thought might be attended with frequent disturbances. I am not aware of successful obstruction by force.

Q. 11. Under these circumstances, what appears to you the advisable remedy?—A. I would try the experiment of entering the Zunanah first, before I recommend the taking up the persons of defaulters.

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Q. 12. You would only grant the power of entrance to the Zunanah, where the recovery by the present ordinary mode of process fails?—*A.* The Warrants of Distress should be granted as at present, in the first instance, and if returned unexecuted, then the authority for entering the Zunanah may be given.

Q. 13. Don't you think that it would be an improvement in the collection, and at the same time merciful towards the poorer class of Tax-payers, if the processes of Summons and Distress, were to issue on the arrear of one Bill, instead of four or five as at present?—*A.* I have always been aiming to have process out on the arrear of the first Bill. I have no doubt it would be an improvement in the Collection, as well as merciful towards the poorer Class of Tax-payers, to have the process out on the arrear of one Bill, instead of allowing them to accumulate to two or three; but in that case the expenses of Distress would be a heavy penalty.

Q. 14. It has been in evidence that Distrain Warrants are executed by European Bailiffs, of whom there are four. They are paid by Costs or Commission levied upon the defaulters, is that the best mode of remuneration?—*A.* Yes. It excites them to exertion. The Warrants of Distress, even including those which I consider as almost irrecoverable, are sought by them with eagerness.

Q. 15. It is stated by Captain Birch, that Street, one of the Distraining Bailiffs, who makes by fees to the extent of one hundred and thirty Rupees a month, has been lately appointed by him to a vacant situation of Examiner of empty houses; but you have intimated that he must not Distrain Property in the Division of which he is the Examiner. What is your reason for the prohibition?—*A.* Because he has an interest in falsifying his report. Where a house is actually empty he might say it was occupied. This false report might get him in the end, fees for a Warrant of Distress.

Q. 16. Do the Magistrates decide the remission of Assessment of empty houses by the Examiners' reports?—*A.* Yes. If the party contests the question of empty or not empty, a Magistrate would rely on the oath of the Examiner.

Q. 17. What would you suggest for the improvement of the Collection?—*A.* In addition to the power of entering the Zunanah, a power to Distrain Carriages and other Property of defaulters, wherever found, would be very useful. Indeed I think we have that power at present, though it is not often exercised.

Q. 18. Have you any suggestions for improving the mode of Collection? Captain Birch states his belief that the Collecting Sirkars extort money from the Tax-payers?—*A.* No case of the Sirkars taking money from the inhabitants has come before me.

Q. 19. You have to deal with Sessions.—When the Agency Houses failed in 1830, a considerable fall took place in the value of House Property in the European part of the Town. The Tax on some of the Native Houses was also reduced. It is stated, as an instance, that Rooploll Mullick's house on the Chitpore Road, which

was formerly valued at Sicca Rupees Six Hundred per month, was, subsequent to the time mentioned, reduced to Sicca Rupees Three Hundred per month, while the valuations of other houses in similar situations continued unchanged. Upon what principle was the valuations of the Native houses reduced?—*A.* I examine the several cases as they are brought before me, the reduction in the valuation of the house alluded to, was made upon application of the owner, supported by the reports or opinions of the Assessors, who act under oath. There was a general reduction in the value of Property in the European part of the Town, and I should conclude that the value of houses in the Native part of the Town also fell—indeed the general depreciation of Landed Property was notorious,—witness the purchases in that part of the Town by the Lottery Committee, and the prices that are now offered for that land, greatly improved as it is. There were a great number of petitions from the different Divisions of the Town, and the Assessors were compelled to admit the reductions applied for, some on specific and undoubted evidence of fall in value, and others on their own estimate.

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Q. 20. Then the value of some of the houses of Native Gentlemen was reduced in consequence of general depreciation of Landed Property?—*A.* Yes, there has been reduction of Assessment in the Native part of the Town, owing to the depreciation of Landed Property since 1830. The more strict method of collection introduced, and the more frequent and ready means of appeal led people to look into the matter of the Assessment. The reduction was not made upon general principles, every case was decided upon on its own particular merits, and no reduction was made without application.

Q. 21. Is there not some difficulty in getting evidence respecting the value of rich Natives' houses?—*A.* Yes, extreme difficulty; they are scarcely ever let, and the Assessors must form a general estimate.

Q. 22. In cases of over Assessment, is the party complaining put to any expense in presenting a petition to the Sessions for redress?—*A.* All persons complaining, even those who pay a Tax of Two Annas, must, in presenting petitions to the Sessions, pay a fee of One Rupee to the Clerk of the Peace upon each petition. If the party is the owner of several houses or shops numbered separately, he must present a separate petition for each, and pay the prescribed fee on each occasion.

Q. 23. What would you suggest for this?—*A.* To receive the petitions without fee, and leave it to the Magistrate to levy it, if he found the application frivolous and without merits.

Q. 24. Have you any suggestions to offer generally upon the Assessment, or Collection?—*A.* A question is now before Government, viz. to allow a single Magistrate to issue Warrants of Distress; so also is that of requiring each Division Magistrate to issue Warrants of Distress in his own District. The Collector would then be bound to have a Warrant out for all arrears, even of one quarter. In a letter to Government of the 28th April last, I proposed that the Collector should be allowed only two per cent. on Two Lacs of Collection, and five per cent. on all, over that sum. The object was of course to draw the strong attention of the Collector to the more difficult Collections.

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I have several times seriously thought, that it might be an advantage to do away with the demand of the Collecting Sirkar, to make it imperative by Law on the Tax-payers to lodge the Tax by a certain time in an Office in their Division. The habits of the Country are certainly opposed to this,—people here require to be dunned, before they pay the smallest sum. If the Law could assist in removing such habit, it should. A power might be given, in any new Enactment, to the Collector to try that system. It would do away with the chance of corruption on the part of the Tax Collector.

No. 13.

Kumulakant
Gaugoolly. 31st Aug.
1836.

Abkaree.

No. 13.

31st August, 1836.

Kumulakant Gaugoolly, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—A. I am a Writer in the Abkaree and License Department.

Q. 2. Who is in charge of the European Distillery and License Department?
—A. Mr. Blaquiere.

Q. 3. How long have you been employed in the Abkaree and License Department?—A. Since 1802.

Q. 4. What is your duty?—A. To write accounts.

Q. 5. How many persons are employed in the Abkaree Department?—A. Ten or twelve persons.

Q. 6. All Writers?—A. No, there are only three Writers—myself, Bissonauth Doss and Ruheemkhan, and seven or eight Sirkars.

Q. 7. What are the Writers employed at?—A. In writing passes, keeping accounts, conducting current business and books.

Q. 8. What salary do the Writers get?—A. I get Forty Rupees, and the others Twenty and Sixteen per month.

Q. 9. What salary do the Sirkars get?—A. The Cash-keeper gets Forty Rupees in the License Department, his two Mohurers, one Fifteen and the other Ten, Podar Seven, and Duftory Six Rupees a month.

Q. 10. Is not Mr. Andrew employed in the Abkaree Department?—A. Yes, he is Clerk of the License Department.

Q. 11. What salary does he get?—A. Two Hundred Rupees a month. He used to get One Hundred Rupees more from the Distillery Department, which has ceased.

No. 13.
Kamulkaat
Gaugoolly, 31st Aug.
1830.

Abkaree.

Q. 12. What is the amount of the whole Establishment per month?—A. Five Hundred and Thirty-one Rupees.

Q. 13. What does Mr. Blaquiére get per month?—A. He gets a Commission of two and a half per cent. on the Collection, which averages monthly under Three Hundred Rupees.

Q. 14. What is your particular duty?—A. I keep Register of Licensed Venders, both wholesale and retail, Register of Taury and Gunja Shops, make up English Monthly Accounts, and write the English Cash Book. I used to keep the Register Book of Duties on Gin, Brandy and foreign Arrack, imported by Sea, which is given up, since June last.

Q. 15. Do you ever yourself go to the Arrack and Rum, and the intoxicating Drug Shops?—A. No, I never went to these shops.

Q. 16. Is there any check against the imposition of the Venders?—A. I do not know.

Q. 17. Who receives the Tax, and grants receipts?—A. The money is paid to the Cash-keeper, who grants receipts.

Q. 18. Does the Cash-keeper collect the whole of the Abkaree Tax?—A. Yes.

Q. 19. Does not Mr. Blaquiére sign the receipts?—A. No.

Q. 20. Does he sign the Licenses?—A. Yes.

Q. 21. The Licensed Arrack Shops have the privilege of retailing Twelve Gallons Bengal Arrack per day—Is there any check against their retailing more than that quantity?—A. There is no check against that.

Q. 22. How many Bengal Arrack Shops are there paying the Tax of Six Rupees a day?—A. Fifty-three.

Q. 23. Whence do these Shopkeepers bring the Arrack into Calcutta, and in what quantities?—A. They are permitted to bring daily fifty-three Banghys of two pots each, and each pot containing about Six Gallons, from a Distillery out of Calcutta. I forget the name of the place.

Q. 24. To whom does the Distillery belong?—A. To Mr. Blaquiére.

No. 13.
—
Kamul Kant
Gangooly, 31st Aug.
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Abkaree.

Q. 25. By whom is the Arrack distilled there?—A. By the Proprietors of the fifty-three Shops I have mentioned.

Q. 26. Who pays for the buildings of the Distillery?—A. The same Shopkeepers.

Q. 27. Do these Shopkeepers take to the Distillery their own materials for distilling?—A. Yes.

Q. 28. Is any Bengal Arrack brought into Calcutta from any other place than the Distillery you have mentioned?—A. I am not aware of any Bengal Arrack coming to Calcutta, but from the Distillery I have mentioned.

Q. 29. How many Licensed Bengal Rum Shops are there, paying the Tax of Five Rupees per day?—A. Eight.

Q. 30. What quantity of Rum are they allowed to retail?—A. Each Shop has the privilege of retailing three hundred and eighty gallons Bengal Rum per month.

Q. 31. Do they sell European Spirits also?—A. Yes, they sell Gin, Brandy, and foreign Arrack, for which they pay the wholesale Tax of Four Rupees per quarter.

Q. 32. Suppose they were to sell more than three hundred and eighty gallons of Rum per month; what would you do?—A. When they wish to sell more, they come to our Office, and declare their intention, and pay the Tax according to the quantity they wish to sell.

Q. 33. Whence do they bring the Rum into Calcutta?—A. From a Distillery at Sookchur.

Q. 34. Does this Distillery belong to the Shopkeepers?—A. No, it belongs to other people.

Q. 35. Is there no other Rum Distillery but the one you have mentioned?—A. There is a Distillery at Bandel, one at Fort Gloster, and one at Dhoba, in the District of Burdwan.

Q. 36. Suppose the Rum Shopkeepers were to bring to Calcutta, in the course of one month, a larger quantity of Rum, than the three hundred and eighty gallons they have the privilege to retail; and do not choose to give you the information, how could you know of this?—A. We cannot know, if they do not choose to give us the information; but the Custom House Chokey is a check against excessive importation.

Q. 37. Are these Shopkeepers at liberty to sell any quantity of Gin, Brandy and foreign Arrack, for the wholesale Tax of Four Rupees per quarter?—A. Yes.

Q. 38. Do you compel them to buy Bengal Rum at the Sookchur Distillery?
—A. No.

Q. 39. How many Distilleries are there at Sookchur?—A. Three.

Q. 40. Do you know to whom they belong?—A. To Govind Shaw, Rajukissore Mullick, and Gooroopersaud Shaw.

Q. 41. Do the Shopkeepers bring the Rum into Calcutta, under passes from the Abkaree Department?—A. Yes, when they wish to import Rum into Calcutta, they apply for a pass to the Abkaree Department. The pass being granted, it is taken to the Distillery, and the quantity mentioned therein, is imported, accompanied by one of our own peons from the Distillery.

Q. 42. How many peons are employed in the Abkaree Department?—A. Sixteen in the Bengal Distillery Department, and thirty-four or thirty-five, in the European Distillery Department. (The witness is desired to produce a list of the Establishment.)

Q. 43. What Tax do the Punch Houses pay?—A. The Punch Houses used to pay Five Rupees per day; but since May last they pay only a Rupee a day.

Q. 44. Do the European Shopkeepers pay any Tax?—A. Mackenzie, Lyall and Co. pay the wholesale Tax of Four Rupees per quarter.

Q. 45. Do Moore, Hickey and Co. pay any thing?—A. No.

Q. 46. How many Taury Shops are there, and what Tax do they pay?—A. There are thirty-eight Taury Shops, and they pay a Tax of One Rupee per day each.

Q. 47. How many Gunja Shops, and what Tax do they pay?—A. Eight Gunja Shops paying Two Rupees a day each.

Q. 48. How many retail Punch Houses are there?—A. Ten.

Q. 49. Are the Taury and Gunja Shops allowed to sell as much as they like?
—A. Yes.

Q. 50. What is the cost of a cup of Taury?—A. Five or six large pots of three gallons, sell for a Rupee.

Q. 51. How often is the Tax paid into the Abkaree Department?—A. It is paid daily.

Q. 52. How is it paid?—A. The Shopkeepers come to the Cash-keeper's Office and pay.

No. 13.

Kamulkant
Gangooly, 31st Aug.
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No. 13.

Kamulkaunt
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Q. 53. If they omit to come; what is done?—*A.* We send peons after them, and bring them up to the Office; if they still dont pay, we keep them in custody for some time in the Police Office, but we cannot do any thing more.

Q. 54. May there not be Shops which do not pay the Tax?—*A.* There may be such Shops, but I think not. There are peons in the Abkaree Department who look after the Shops.

Q. 55. Is there more than one Shop belonging to one person?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 56. Name some of the principal Shopkeepers of all classes, and the situations of their Shops?—*A.* Of Bengal Arrack, Rammohun Shaw has one shop at Colootollah; Ramkaunt Shaw has three, at Bow Bazar, Machowa Bazar and Chowringhee; Juggomohun Shaw has two, at Cullinga and Fenwick's Bazar. Of Bengal Rum, Goorooopersaud Shaw, has one shop, Koonjoo Baharry Shaw, one, Sunatun Mundul, one, Okoor Shaw, one, all at Radha Bazar; John William Atwater, Alexander Simpson, and Robert Harding, keep Punch Houses. Of Taury, Kyamuddeen has two shops, at Durumtollah and Tiretta Bazar. Of Gunja, Jumma Khan and Dhomee Khan, have two shops, at Burra Bazar and Matchowa Bazar, Bunmolly Banay, has one shop at Matchowa Bazar.

Q. 57. Name the Sirkars and Peons stationed at the Distilleries?—*A.* At Koolia Distillery, Sirkar Juggomohun Bose, Jemadar Roheem Khan, and four Peons. At Sookchurn Distillery, Sirkars Nobocoomar Bonerjje and Goorooopersaud Bonerjje, and twelve Peons.

No. 14.

31st August, 1836.

RAMJOY MOOKERJEE, *examined.*

No. 14.

Ramjoy Mookerjee,
31st August, 1836.

Abkaree.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am Cash-keeper in the Abkaree Department.

Q. 2. How long have you held the situation?—*A.* I am employed in the Police, for forty-three or forty-five years. In the Abkaree Department, three or four years before Mr. Blaquiére took charge of it.

Q. 3. How is the Tax in the Abkaree Department paid?—*A.* When the Venders come to the Police to pay the Tax, they go up to the English Office first, and inform Mr. Andrew or his Assistant, that they have come to pay the money. They then come down to my Office, and pay the money to the Podar. The Mohurer enters the amount in the Book, and grants receipts.

Q. 4. Don't you sign the receipt?—*A.* No.

Q. 5. Are the receipts of money compared with the License Book?—*A.* The Writer in the English Office and my Mohurer compare the account of Licenses and Receipts.

Q. 6. When money is paid, is any memorandum of it made on the back of the License?—*A.* Formerly from the English Office, such memorandum used to be made, but now they have given up that system. They even do not grant Licenses now. They merely enter the names of the Venders in a book.

Q. 7. Are there now no Licenses granted at all?—*A.* Sometimes a License is granted.

Q. 8. What is the amount of your daily receipt?—*A.* The average monthly receipt is from twelve to fourteen thousand Rupees.

Q. 9. We want to know the amount of daily receipt?—*A.* The money is not paid daily. Sometimes, I do not receive a Rupee for ten days. Some of the Shopkeepers are in arrear for two, and some for three months—generally they make payments, a little before the close of the month.

Q. 10. Do they not pay daily?—*A.* No. The Peons go about them, and the payments are made about the end of the month, and there are arrears, as I have mentioned.

Q. 11. Kumulakant Gangooly has stated that the Shopkeepers pay the Tax daily. What do you say to this?—*A.* He is wrong. They do not pay daily. (The witness is desired to produce his Bengallee Cash Books.)

No 14.
Ramjoy Mookerjee,
31st August, 1936,

Abkaree.

Q. 12. Do the Shopkeepers give any security for securing the payment of the Tax?—*A.* They used to do so before, but not now.

Q. 13. Why is it discontinued?—*A.* I do not know.

Q. 14. What floating cash balance have you generally on hand?—*A.* The money does not come in at the beginning of the month. The sum accumulates about the end of the month, and is remitted to the General Treasury, by the middle of the following month.

Q. 15. Where does the money remain in the mean time?—*A.* In the Police Office, in an iron chest.

Q. 16. Under your custody?—*A.* Under my lock and key.

Q. 17. How are the Shopkeepers' accounts adjusted?—*A.* The accounts are kept in the English Office. I only keep an account of the money paid to me.

Q. 18. Do you ever lose money by non-payment of Shopkeepers.—*A.* We do.

Q. 19. What may be the amount of loss sustained by non-payment?—*A.* I cannot say; the accounts are kept in the English Office—my business is to account for the money I receive.

Q. 20. Have you given any security?—*A.* I have given security to the amount of Twenty Thousand Rupees. I am the general Cash-keeper of the Police.

Q. 21. What salary do you get?—*A.* One hundred Rupees per month, sixty Rupees from the General Department, and forty Rupees from the Abkaree Department.

Q. 22. How many people are employed under you?—*A.* I have three Mohurers and one Podar in the License Department, and a similar establishment in the General Department; besides these I am obliged to employ some Sirkars of my own, not paid by the Police.

Q. 23. Do you know any thing how the collection is made?—*A.* I know nothing about the collection. Mr. Andrew always sends to the Shopkeepers.

No. 15.

17th September, 1836.

No 15.

Ranjoy Mookerjee,
17th Sept. 1836.

Abkaree.

RAMJOY MOOKERJEE, *further examined.*

Q. 1. It appears by the copy of the quarterly account of the Abkaree Tax closed on the 1st May 1836, that the sum of Sicca Rupees 12,375-2, remitted to the General Treasury on the 18th of that month, is charged to the debit of that account. What explanation can you give about this irregularity? (account shewn)—*A.* I do not know any thing about the accounts, I give a statement of the receipts to the Clerk of the English Office daily, and he makes up the accounts.

Q. 2. But how comes it that the money which was not out of your hands until the 18th of the month of May, has been charged here (account shewn) at debit on the preceding month?—*A.* I cannot say any thing about how the debit you mention is in the account.

Q. 3. By whose order do you pay the money into the General Treasury?—*A.* By order of Mr. Blaquiere, he writes a letter to the Sub-Treasurer, and with that I send the money, and obtaining a receipt for the amount, shew it to Mr. Blaquiere.

Q. 4. Do you report the daily receipts to Mr. Blaquiere?—*A.* I, or one of my Mohurers report the daily receipts to the Clerk of the English Office. Besides, when the Tax-payers come to pay, they, in the first instance, as well as after payment of the amount to me, inform him of it. This is the book I keep (delivers a few loose sheets of paper, purporting to be the cash account for August 1836.)

Q. 5. Do you keep no other book but this? How could you ascertain from this book the exact cash balance in the chest? for instance, by the English account rendered, it would appear that, on the 30th April 1836, there should be a cash balance in the chest of Sicca Rupees 18,077-10-7. Produce your Bengalee Book, shewing such a balance?—*A.* The English Office Clerk strikes the balance of the Cash Book at the end of each month, and tells me the amount, which, corresponding with the memorandum I make upon a scrap of paper, my memorandum is thrown aside, and not taken care of.

Q. 6. This will never do. Suppose the English Office Clerk choose to tell you, that the balance was more than the actual amount of cash in the chest, how could you check it?—*A.* I compare it with the memorandum I have mentioned.

Q. 7. Produce your memorandum of cash balance for April 1836. You surely could not have destroyed it?—*A.* I will try to find it out.

Q. 8. The balance of cash on the 30th April 1836 being Sicca Rupees 18,077-10-7, how comes it that a particular sum of Sicca Rupees 12,375-2 was remitted

No. 15.
 Ramjoy Mookerjee,
 17th Sept, 1836.

Abkaree.

to the General Treasury on the 18th May, instead of a round sum of 17 or 18,000 Rupees?—*A.* I have disbursed 3,700 or 4,000 Rupees for repairs of the Distillery. I hold vouchers from Mr. Blaquiere for the sum, but it is not passed to account. A sum of about 1200 or 1400 Rupees is retained on hand to meet the claims for drawback on Gin and Brandy, and the balance remitted to the General Treasury.

Q. 9. To whom does the Kooliah Distillery belong?—*A.* To Mr. Blaquiere.

Q. 10. How comes the Government money to be paid for its repairs?—*A.* Perhaps it belongs to the Government, I do not know—I merely take care of the cash.

Q. 11. Do you know the number of Arrack and Rum Shops, or any other particulars about the Abkaree Tax?—*A.* No. I know nothing about it.

No. 16.

17th September, 1836.

Kumulakant Gangooly, further examined.

No. 16.

Kumulakant
Gangooly, 17th Sept.
1836.

Abkaree.

Q. Do you make up these accounts? (the Quarterly Abstract Cash Account for February, March and April 1836 shewn.)—*A.* Yes.

Q. Do you see that the sum of Sicca Rupees 12,375-2, part of collections for April, is remitted to the General Treasury on the 18th of May, and so in former months, the collections for February remitted on the 16th of March, and the collections for March remitted on the 19th of April, consequently there should be always a cash balance of from 17,000 to 20,000 Rupees on hand?—*A.* Yes, there is always the balance you mention on hand.

Q. Where is the money kept?—*A.* There is a Cash Chest in the Police Office under a guard; but whether the amount of balance is kept therein or not, I cannot say.

Q. Do you keep an English Cash Book?—*A.* I keep an English Cash Book and a Register Book of daily receipts.

Q. Produce these Books on next Wednesday with Mr. Blaquiere's permission?—*A.* I will do so.

Q. To whom do the buildings of the Kooliah Distillery belong?—*A.* There is no pukka building. The thatched houses belong to Mr. Blaquiere.

Q. To whom does the ground belong?—*A.* To the Zemindars.

Q. Who pays the rent?—*A.* The Arrack Distillers.

Q. The Distillery does not belong to Government?—*A.* No.

No. 17.

Jugomohun Bose,
17th September, 1886.

Abkarce.

No. 17.

17th September, 1886.

Jugomohun Bose, examined.

Q. 1. Who are you?—*A.* I am the Kooliah Distillery Sircar.

Q. 2. How long have you held the situation?—*A.* Permanently for five or six years.

Q. 3. To whom does the Distillery belong?—*A.* To the Spirit Venders: we are employed to guard on the part of the Government.

Q. 4. At whose expense were the Distillery houses built?—*A.* At the expense of the Spirit Venders. The fence round the Distillery and the Guard House, are built at the expense of Government.

Q. 5. When was the Distillery last repaired?—*A.* It was repaired about two years ago: at present it is in a very decayed state.

Q. 6. From what stuff is the Arrack distilled?—*A.* From Jagree, Rice and a kind of drug.

Q. 7. Not from Taudy?—*A.* No.

Q. 8. What quantity of Arrack is allowed to be taken away daily, by each Licensed Vender?—*A.* Twelve gallons.

Q. 9. Do they make more than that quantity?—*A.* They generally make twelve gallons a day each, if any of them makes more one day, he makes so much less the next day.

Q. 10. How do you ascertain that they do not make more than the quantity you have mentioned?—*A.* There are pots measured and sealed by the Police, each to contain six gallons, and no more, and no shop is allowed to distil more than two pots a day.

Q. 11. What is your salary?—*A.* Eight Rupees per month.

Q. 12. If the Venders distilled a larger quantity than they are permitted, can they carry it away?—*A.* No, there is a Jumadar and two peons stationed at the Distillery and I always attend there during the day time. They are not allowed to take away more than the quantity permitted.

Q. 13. Have the distillers separate pots of their own to distil the Arrack in?—*A.* They have separate pots; but as soon as the Arrack is ready it is poured into the pots sent from the Police.

Q. 14. In what manner do the Venders take away the Arrack from the Distillery?—A. On the first day of every month, each of them presents to me a pass from the Police. When they take away the Arrack, I make an entry of it on that pass. The pass then accompanies the Arrack on its transit and is presented at the Boitakhana Thana, from whence only the Arrack is permitted to enter the City. The Sirkar stationed at the Boitakhana Thana takes the pass, and permits the transit of the Arrack into the City. He then forwards the pass to the Police Office, where it is daily countersigned by Mr. Andrew opposite my entry. (Two passes produced.)

No 17.
Jugomohun Bose,
17th September, 1836.
Abkarree.

Q. 15. It would appear by one of the passes you have delivered, that the Venders do not always carry away Arrack daily from the Distillery. If one does not take it away one day, is he permitted to take away double quantity the next day?—A. No. If he leaves it behind any day he cannot take away more than the usual quantity of twelve gallons the next, or any other day.

Q. 16. And does he pay the full Tax notwithstanding?—A. Yes; some of the Venders are making remonstrances about it; but I do not know whether they are to have any allowance.

Q. 17. Can you state the cause of short exportation of Arrack from the Distillery?—A. There are Arrack Shops opened in the Suburbs just on the border of the Town, which pay a Tax of only from two to three Rupees each per day, consequently can afford to sell cheaper; the consumption therefore in the Shops within the Town is less.

Q. 18. From what Distillery are the Shops you have just mentioned supplied?—A. From a Distillery near Allipore.

Q. 19. Are any of the Proprietors of the Shops in Town, also Proprietors of the Shops in the Suburbs?—A. No, they are different people.

Q. 20. Can the Town Shops be supplied from the Shops in the Suburbs, by passing the Arrack through any of the bye paths?—A. No; they cannot, there are Patroles going round, and the Shopkeepers in Town cannot bring in Arrack clandestinely.

Q. 21. Have any of the Shopkeepers in the Suburbs interest in the Town Shops?—A. No. One of the Soories who had a share in one of the Shops in the Suburbs, having quarrelled with his partner, has come to Town, and established a Shop by himself, since the beginning of this month.

Q. 22. Can you say what quantity of Spirit the Shopkeepers in the Suburbs are permitted to sell daily?—A. I cannot say.

No. 18.

Khajah Ahmed and
Hussenally,
17th September, 1836.

Abkaree.

No. 18.

The 17th September, 1836.

Khajah Ahmed and Hussenally, examined.

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* We are Police Peons, stationed at the Kooliah Distillery.

Q. 2. How many men are stationed at the Kooliah Distillery on the part of the Police?—*A.* Two Peons and a Jumadar.

Q. 3. Are you permanently stationed at the Kooliah Distillery?—*A.* No; a change takes place every week. We are sometimes stationed at the Distillery, sometimes at the Rada Bazar Rum Shops, and sometimes at the Police Office.

Q. 4. Upon what duty are you stationed at the Distillery?—*A.* To prevent the Venders carrying away more than Twelve Gallons daily each, to prevent strangers coming into the Distillery, and to prevent fracas and disturbance therein.

Q. 5. Is any part of the Arrack made in the Kooliah Distillery, sold or drunk there?—*A.* No. It is prohibited, and the guard is stationed to see the rule strictly followed.

Q. 6. Have you ever been stationed at Sookchur?—*A.* No.

Q. 7. Is the Rum brought into the Venders' Shops under pass?—*A.* Yes; the Rum is brought into the Shops accompanied by a pass, and we are to see that none is brought in without being accompanied by a pass.

Q. 8. Whereabouts do you watch at Rada Bazar?—*A.* We go about patrolling on the Street—sometimes we enter the Shops.

Q. 9. Have you authority to search the persons coming into the Rum Shops?—*A.* We have; no person is allowed to take in Rum to the Shops, without producing a pass to us.

Q. 10. Is there a pass produced when Rum is carried out of the Shops?—*A.* When it is exported by Sea, or to up the Country, we require and examine the pass also.

Q. 11. How late are the Spirit Shops allowed to be kept open?—*A.* The Shops are allowed to be kept open till the evening gun, and we are to see that they are not kept open later. We also prevent fracas and disturbances in the Shops during the evening.

Q. 12. Do you allow any Arrack or Rum to be carried away from one Shop into another?—*A.* No.

No. 19.

24th September, 1836.

Ramjoy Mookerjee, further examined.

No. 19.

*Ramjoy Mookerjee,
24th September 1836,*

Abkaree,

Q. 1. Have you brought the account you were required to produce?—*A.* No; I have not that account with me; I have not been able to find it.

No. 20.

24th September, 1836.

Nobinchunder Chatterjee, examined.

No. 20.

*Nobinchunder Chat-
terjee, 24th Sept. 1836,*

Abkaree,

Q. 1. What are you?—*A.* I am a Mohurur in the Abkaree Department.

Q. 2. How often is the Abkaree Tax paid by the Licensed Venders?—*A.* The money is generally paid daily, sometimes at intervals of two or three days.

Q. 3. Who grants the receipts?—*A.* Mr. Andrew.

Q. 4. In English?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 5. When the money is paid, where is it deposited?—*A.* The Cash-keeper puts it in the Cash Chest.

Q. 6. And how is it brought to account?—*A.* As soon as the amount is paid, I enter the same in a daily Cash Book, written in the Bengalee language, (like the one delivered by the Cash-keeper) I then go up to the English Office, and report the receipt of the sum, which is then entered in the English Cash Book.

Q. 7. Do you ever compare the Bengalee Cash Book, with the English Cash Book?—*A.* Yes, daily.

Q. 8. Are the Cash Receipts for the month, examined with the License Book?—*A.* Yes, I and the Writer, examine the same.

Q. 9. Is the Tax paid by instalments, or one payment?—*A.* By instalments; generally the whole demand is liquidated within the month. Sometimes a balance remains unadjusted, which is paid up at the beginning of the next month, but we notwithstanding, enter the whole amount in the month to which it belongs.

No. 20.

Nobinchunder Chatterjee, 24th Sept. 1836.

Abkarree.

Q. 10. Do you examine the Quarterly Statements, made up in the English Office, for transmission to the Accountant General's Office?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 11. Look at the account (the Quarterly Account for February, March and April 1836, shewn.) There is stated to be a balance of Cash on hand, on the 31st January 1836, of Sicca Rupees 5,235-14-0, was that amount in the Cash Chest on that day?—*A.* No; of this balance Sicca Rupees 1839-5-4 are expended for repairs, &c. of the Kooliah Factory, and 700 more in payment of house rent, on account Licensed European Distillery.

No. 21.

24th September, 1836.

No. 21.

Kumulakaunt Gangoly, 24th Sept. 1836.

Kumulakaunt Gangoly, further examined.

Abkarree.

Q. 1. Have you brought the English Cash Book?—*A.* Yes. (Produces the Monthly Cash Book, made up to the 30th April 1836, corresponding with the Statement delivered by Mr. Blaquiere.)

Q. 2. How do you make up this Book?—*A.* At the expiration of the month, the Cash-keeper translates his Bengallee Cash Book to me, and I write it up in English.

No. 22.

12th November, 1836.

William Coates Blaquiere, Esq., examined.

No. 22.

William Coates Blaquiere, Esq. 12th Nov. 1836.

Abkarree.

Q. 1. You have the entire charge of the Abkarree Department of the Town of Calcutta?—*A.* Yes, since 1808.

Q. 2. The principal item of the Abkarree Tax, appears to be derived from the Bengal Arrack Shops?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 3. In the Accounts of 1835-36, there appears some discrepancies. For instance, for the 53 Bengal Arrack Shops paying at the rate of 6 Sicca Rupees per day, you have credited Sicca Rupees 107,028-8, whereas, by calculation, the amount should be Rupees 1,16,070, for the year. There are deficits also in the credits for the Gunja and Taury Shops, Punch Houses and Wholesale Licenses, while, on the other hand, a sum of 695 Rupees is over credited on account Rum Shops. Will you

explain this?—*A.* The collection of the Tax is irregular. The whole amount of the monthly demand is not adjusted within the month, so that a balance generally remains outstanding for future recovery. Besides which, the whole number of Shops stated, have not been open for the whole year, but several for less than twelve months. The amount given is the correct amount realized within the year.

No. 22.
William Coates
Blakely, Esq.
12th Nov. 1850.
Abkarce.

Q. 4. Then your Accounts should shew, in different columns, the balance in arrear—the demand for the year—the amount realized during the year—charges on the collection—and the balance outstanding at the end of the year—your demands being upon few, such an account could easily be kept in your Department?—*A.* I have never kept my Accounts in that way before, but I will make up a Statement as suggested.

Q. 5. To whom does the Kooliah Distillery belong?—*A.* To a Native.

Q. 6. What is his name?—*A.* I do not know.

Q. 7. Who pays the rent?—*A.* The Soories (Arrack Distillers.)

Q. 8. To whom do the buildings belong?—*A.* To the Soories, but the fence or enclosure was erected, and is kept in repair at the Government expense.

Q. 9. The Distillers are permitted to take away from the Distillery twelve gallons of Arrack per day each, what are the checks against their carrying away a larger quantity?—*A.* They carry away the Arrack under passes from me. The Police has a general surveillance over them, and the Sirkar and Peons stationed at the Distillery, see that they do not distil more than twelve gallons a day each.

Q. 10. How many Sirkars and Peons are stationed at the Distillery?—*A.* One Sirkar and two Peons.

Q. 11. Any European Superintendent?—*A.* No, not a constant one. Mr. Andrew occasionally looks after them; but it rests with the Sirkar and Peons to check the Distilling, and exportation. The pass for the month is signed by me, in the beginning of the month, and it is countersigned daily by Mr. Andrew. On its being produced to the Sirkar at the Distillery, by the Shopkeeper, he allows him to take away two pots of six gallons each in a Banghy. The Banghy enters the Town by the Road of Boituckhana Thana, where another Sirkar is stationed, who, after examining the pass, allows the Arrack to be carried to the Shop. Patrolling Peons go about, and see that no irregularity is committed, and that the Arrack is not carried away from one Shop to another.

Q. 12. Is it absolutely necessary that in coming to Town, the Banghy must pass by the Boituckhana Thana. Can it not pass by circuitous bye-ways?—*A.* No. The Police Boundary Guard would prevent the transit to Town from any other bye-ways.

No. 22.

William Coates
Blacquire, Esq.
12th Nov. 1836.

Abkarree.

Q. 13. How many men are employed in the Boundary Guards?—*A.* About five hundred.

Q. 14. Is the retail sale of Bengal Arrack, limited to twelve gallons daily to each Shop?—*A.* No, they are allowed to sell more on payment of a proportionate additional Tax. If there was a larger daily consumption than twelve gallons, the Shopkeepers would apply for additional passes, and I would grant the same to them on payment of a proportionate excess Tax; but there is no vend for an additional quantity, the large importation of Brandy and other European Spirits of late years having injured the vend of Bengal Arrack.

Q. 15. What is the cause of falling off of the Abkarree Tax since 1823-29. In 1820-21 the amount was Rupees 2,40,962, in 1828-29, 2,42,555, and in 1835-36, Rupees 1,85,084?—*A.* The deficit is chiefly on the Bengal Arrack, the consumption of which is checked by the large importation of European Spirits, and the cheap rate at which they are sold, and the establishment of numerous Arrack Shops all round the boundary of the Town in the Suburbs, by the Collector, on lower terms than those under my control, and less restraint.

Q. 16. In your return you have stated the number of Punch Houses to be twelve. They used to pay a Tax of Five Sicca Rupees per day, it is stated to have been reduced to One Rupee since May 1835, what is the cause of the reduction?—*A.* The Chief Magistrate recommended the reduction in communication with the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium, which I disapproved of. The cause assigned was, that by reducing the Tax, men of respectability would come forward and establish Punch Houses of a better order, which was at variance with my opinion.

Q. 17. For the Tax levied, are the Punch Houses at liberty to sell any quantity of Spirits?—*A.* Yes; they are at liberty to consume in any quantity,—the Spirits which they consume, having already paid a duty of three annas per gallon, on importation by sea. This duty upon European Spirits imported by sea, was levied at my suggestion, as a Police retail duty, in September 1802, exclusive of the regular Custom House duty, and levied on the Wharf by me on importation, which improved the revenue considerably, in as much as the retailing Tax was collected upon the whole as imported, instead of being levied upon it as gradually sold by retail.

Q. 18. What are the Beer Shops?—*A.* They retail Spruce Beer and Country Beer, pay a Tax at the rate of five Rupees per month. There are eight Shops of this description licensed at present,—they cannot be considered permanent,—a Shop is opened one month, and shut again the next. Finding them receptacles of disorderly persons, I licenced them to keep them in order.

Q. 19. Have you any suggestions to make for the improvement of the Abkarree?—*A.* No; none except it be the abolition of the Arrack Shops on the boundary in the Suburbs, or the placing them on exactly the same footing as those in the Town. On the contrary I contemplate a diminution, the venders being no longer

able to pay six Rupees per day, which falls very heavy upon the Arrack Shops, since the consumption of Bengal Arrack has decreased.

No. 22.
William Coates
Blaquiere, Esq.
12th November 1836.

Abkaree.

Q. 20. Do the Arrack and Rum Shopkeepers, give any security for the due payment of the Tax?—A. They used to give security before, which however I considered futile, as one Shopkeeper used to be the security for the other. They are however men of substance, and there is no fear of any loss by their non-payment.

Q. 21. What measures do you pursue in cases of non-payment?—A. I have always pursued lenient measures in the collection, and more particularly since the falling off of the Bengal Arrack Shops, by the introduction of European Spirits among the consumers.

Q. 22. What sort of people are the Keepers of Taury Shops?—A. They are not responsible persons. I make them pay the tax in advance. On granting the licence I take in advance one month's tax, and continue to do so, as long as the shop is kept open.

Q. 23. What sort of people are the Keepers of Gunja Shops?—A. They are very responsible persons—there is no fear of loosing any thing by them.

Q. 24. Have you any thing to do with Opium Shops?—A. We have no cognizance over Opium Shops. In fact there are no Opium Shops. The Druggists sell Opium, and the Police visitation is limited to those Shops only where disorders and riots are likely to happen. People never take Opium in the Druggists Shop.

Q. 25. In the Muffusul there is a regulation to punish persons selling smuggled Opium. Is there any regulation to this effect in Town?—A. No.

No. 23.

William Coates
Blaquiere, Esq.
26th December, 1836.

Abkaree.

No. 23.

26TH DECEMBER 1836.

WILLIAM COATES BLAQUIERE, Esq. *further examined.*

Q. 1. Ramjoy Mookerjee, the Cash-keeper of the Abkaree Department, has stated that the Kooleah Distillery belongs to you, and that a sum of about 3700 or 4000 Rs., from the Abkaree collections, has been laid out for its repairs, which is never passed to account. On questioning him how the Government money was laid out for the repairs of property belonging to you, he stated that perhaps the Distillery belongs to the Government, will you explain this?—A. As to Ramjoy Mookerjee's saying that the Distillery belongs to me, he no doubt alludes to me as Magistrate or Collector of the Abkaree Tax. I have no private property in that Distillery. The ground belongs to a Native named Radhakissen Set, the Houses to the Arrack Shopkeepers, whose Arrack is distilled there, who pay a ground rent to the said Set; the fence by which the whole is surrounded belongs to Government. The sum laid out for repairs, is for repairs of the said fence alone, which being erected at the Government expense, is the Government property, and consequently is kept up at the Government expense; but the amount is mis-stated, being only Sa. Rs. 1039-5-4. Ramjoy Mookerjee must have mentioned the sum at random without recollection. This charge for repairs is for the last 10 years, the bills have not yet been audited, as soon as they are, I shall charge the amount to the debit of the Government.

Q. 2. For what reason have these Bills remained unaudited for so long a period?—A. They have certainly been allowed to stand over long; but Government have only ordered the audit of accounts lately.

Q. 3. Then it would appear, that the Balances stated to be due to Government in the Statements furnished by you, are false balances?—A. Certainly not, as I am bound to account to Government for the Balance stated—which is correct. I now give in Monthly Statements, shewing the efficient, and inefficient balance.

Q. 4. Will you be so good as to send the Committee, copies of your Accounts since May last?—A. Yes, I will do so, after they have been sanctioned by Government.

Q. 5. You stated formerly, that only 12 Gallons of Arrack is allowed to be taken out daily from the Distillery, by each Licensed Vender, but if any of them choose to take out more, what check is there to prevent it?—A. As I have before observed, the Arrack is only allowed to quit the Distillery under my Pass. The Sirkar and Police people at the Distillery, see that the exportation is strictly confined to the quantity allowed by the Pass. The Pass is made out at the Police Office, and sent signed, by me, to the Distillery Sirkar, Juggomohun Bose, by one of the License Department Peons, and the Domestic of the Vender, upon application, is allowed to take away the quantity sanctioned, that is, two pots of 6 gallons each. Juggomohun signs his name upon the Pass, in authentication of the exportation.

(a Pass shewn) inserting also, that twelve gallons of Arrack has passed out from the Distillery. A Banghy with the Arrack, accompanied by the Pass, proceeds to the Town, and on reaching the Boitukhana Thana, the pots are deposited, and the Pass produced to the Abkaree Sirkar stationed there (Takoordoss Chatterjee), who after seeing Juggomohun's signature on the Pass, and examining the seals on the pots, allows the Banghy to proceed on into the Town, putting his signature on the Pass.

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William George
Bisquiere, Esq.,
25th December, 1863.
Abkaree.

Q. 6. Where is the Boitukhana Thana stationed?—A. On the Circular Road, at the end of the Loll Bazar Road, leading to Ballyaghat and the Kooleah Distillery.

Q. 7. Suppose the party choose to take the Arrack to a Shop in the Suburbs, what check is there against it?—A. It would be possible for him to do so; but the Banghees generally leave the Distillery in a body, accompanied by two Distillery Peons, who see them to the limit of the Boitukhana Thana.

Q. 8. Are similar checks used in respect to the passing of Rum to the Town?—A. No, not exactly similar. All Rum pays a *still head duty* of six Annas per gallon, previous to its removal from the Rum Distillery, which is at Sookchur, totally distinct from the Arrack Distillery, which is at Kooleah. The quantity permitted to be sold at each Shop monthly (viz. 880 gallons) is brought from the Sookchur Distillery, under a Pass, bearing my signature, to the Police Office, when, after being guaged, it is allowed to pass to the Shops. This Six Annas duty per gallon, is a still head duty levied by me as a Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, under a Mofussil Government Regulation, and has no connection whatsoever with the duty paid for retailing Rum in the Town, which is 5 per diem, or 152-8 per month.

Q. 9. On what authority were the Taury and Ganjah Shops Licensed in 1803?—A. There was no legal authority to License these Shops, either under Act of Parliament or Government Regulation. The Licensing of them, was suggested by me in the year 1803, and sanctioned by Government, and they also come under the provisions of the 54th George the Third Cap. CV.

Q. 10. Why are not the retail European Spirit Shops taxed at the same rate as the Bengal Arrack Shops?—A. There are no Shops for the retail of European Spirits. The Shops selling European Spirits, seldom sell less than dozens.

Q. 11. The Punch Houses sell a less quantity. Was the tax on them reduced under the sanction of Government?—A. Yes.

Q. 12. What is the rate of tax levied on the Bengal Arrack Shops in the Suburbs?—A. They are taxed at the same rate as those in the Town, viz. Eight Annas per gallon, but are not limited to 12 gallons per diem, as the Shops in the Town, and are at liberty to take out Licenses for as much, or as little, as they may find convenient, and are not under the same checks and restrictions, as those in the Town, as to the hours of vending. Two Shops at Manicktollah, pay only three Rupees per lay each, and the daily quantity limited to six gallons, an indulgence which I have always refused, to obviate a falling off in the Revenue.

No 23.

William Coates
Blaquiere, Esq.
26th December, 1836.

Abkaree.

Q. 13. Can you furnish us with a statement of the number of Arrack Shops in the Suburbs, with the quantity consumed daily, and upon which the tax is levied ?
—A. Yes, I will endeavour to do so.

Q. 14. It is stated in evidence, that the number of Taury Shops in the Town is 38, and that of Ganjah Shops 8; but by the statements furnished by you, the number of the former appears to be 62, and of the latter 9, how do you reconcile this ?—A. All the above mentioned Taury and Ganjah Shops were not open the whole of the year, but 62 of the former and 9 of the latter, were licensed at some one time or other during the year.

Q. 15. What objection have you to grant a License, during good behaviour, to every person, desirous of selling in any quantity, for which they can find a sale, and manufactured in any part of the Town or the Suburbs they please ?—A. None, provided the Arrack comes to the Town, having paid the present rate of duty; but permitting the sale of an unlimited quantity on payment of a certain fixed tax upon the Shop, would have this effect: A person who now keeps four Shops would then keep only one, where he would sell as much, as he now does in the four, or even more. The manufacture of Spirits is strictly prohibited in the Town.

Q. 16. Would not there be competition in that case ?—A. No, not much. There might be some—my opinion is decidedly against the change, as I attribute the great increase in the Abkaree Revenue under my controul, to the restriction to quantity per Shop, which was before unlimited, as now suggested. Gin and Brandy now pay nine annas per gallon on importation, to the Collector of Government Customs, and nothing to me, as heretofore, under the denomination of retail duty, which was three annas per gallon, and has been blended with the Custom House duty.

Q. 17. You stated formerly, that Bengal Arrack Shops are permitted to sell a further quantity, beyond the limited twelve gallons on payment of a proportionate excess of tax; in point of fact, how much has, at any time, been collected for extra quantities ?—A. I will furnish a statement thereof.

Q. 18. With reference to the Quarterly Cash Statements, furnished by you, it would appear, that the collection of the month is not remitted to the General Treasury, until about the middle of the following month, when by the collections of that month, the cash balance would further accumulate, consequently, there would always be a large cash balance in your hands, as you will see by this statement (shewn), this has been confirmed by the evidence of Kumlakantu Gangooly—is not this the case ?—A. It has been the case latterly, but the remittance to the Treasury is now made as formerly on the first of the ensuing month, or as soon after as possible. The cash is always kept in the hands of the Cash-keeper Ramjoy Mookerjee, and not in mine.

Q. 19. Considering the limited extent of accounts to be kept, might not the Establishment now employed be materially reduced ?—A. No, certainly not.

No. 24.

27th December, 1836.

No. 24.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
27th December, 1836.D. MCFARLAN, Esqr. *farther examined.*

Q. 1. Mr. Blaquiere has stated that the tax levied on Punch Houses, or Houses for the reception of European Sailors, which was formerly five Rupees per diem, is reduced to one Rupee, by your suggestion, since May 1835. What was the ground of your suggestion for the reduction?—A. I have proof enough that the people who kept Punch Houses in the Town, were exceedingly low and disrespectful, a principal cause of it was, as I, and some other Magistrates fancied, to be found in the very heavy tax of five Rupees per day imposed upon them. It appeared that they could never raise themselves under such a heavy impost, to pecuniary independence suited to their state in life, the reduction of the duty would lead, as I hoped, to make it worth the while of tolerably respectable men keeping Houses all the year round. Another bad effect of the heavy charge was, that Houses were shut up altogether and Seamen were driven to other means of housing themselves, these means may be guessed at, they were far more inconvenient for the efficiency of the Police. I add the correspondence that passed with Government on the subject.—(letter from the Chief Magistrate to Mr. Macsween, dated 5th June 1834—letter from Mr. Mangles to the Chief Magistrate, of 28th March 1835—Ditto from the Chief Magistrate to C. Macsween, of 5th January 1835.)

Q. 2. What are the duties of the two Constables in the Conservancy Department?—A. The primary business of one (Stathun) is to attend at, and to certify the daily muster of Coolies and Hackeries, besides which he has charge of the Plain and its Roads. The other (Clarke) is the Overseer of the whole of the Strand-bank, from Cooly Bazar to Hautkhola. He has also the Conservancy charges of Clive Street, Durmahatta, and the Streets westward of them.

Q. 3. The Establishment of the Public Tanks, Since Rupees two hundred and thirty-eight, five annas per month, in the item No. 20 of the Abstract Disbursements appears large, will you give the particulars thereof, and state if it can be reduced?—A. I add a list of the Tank Establishment, the sum formerly paid on this account was much larger—when I took charge. I reduced it very much, and do not think further reduction can be made.

Q. 4. What are the duties of the people employed?—A. To prevent persons defiling the water of the Tanks by bathing or swimming dogs in them; a few Mollys are also employed to look after the flowers. I tried to realize the amount of cost out of the fisheries. The lessees however failed—a small sum is only realized from the grass rent, and from persons angling for pleasure.

No. 24. .

D McFarlan, Esq.
27th December, 1836.

Q. 5. How many Public Tanks are there?—A. I believe twenty-two.

Q. 6. Is not the Establishment for the Fire Engine Department (No. 25) large? there are two Constables, how are they employed?—A. The Establishment in my opinion is not large, the Constables remain with the Engines, are bound to see them kept in thorough repair, the hoses, &c. bound. On every occasion of a fire they must start at whatever time it happens, the exposure and wear and tear of life are great. There had been five Constables who have died since 1828. I have sometimes wished to make the men generally useful as Constables in the rains, and they would be so on emergencies.

Q. 7. How far is the Fire Engine Establishment, effective in extinguishing fires?—A. Fires very seldom break out amongst Pucka buildings. Huts being generally thatched, when a fire breaks out amongst them, the Engine is not always very effective, as the fire consumes the straw-built huts, in a very short space of time, and the Engines in many instances arrive too late to save them. There is an account of the number of Fires where the Engines have attended, which will be sent for the Committee's inspection.

Q. 8. Are the Engines stationed at the same stations as was reported by the Police Committee of 1822?—A. Yes.

Q. 9. Do you think a Bye-Law, compelling the people to roof their Huts with Tiles, instead of Straw, would have the effect of doing away with the necessity of the Fire Engine Establishment?—A. I have had applications made to me by Merchants for orders to compel people to tile their Huts. I have some doubts about the policy of any such law. I think one tendency of it would probably be, to drive the poorer population out of Calcutta, most of the people living in Huts, are not able to erect or hire tiled ones, and you might in that case have to increase the wages of Servants, a Bye-Law to the above effect, seems to have once existed, and to have been repealed in 1781. Indeed Tiled Huts having mat walls, would only be a little better than straw ones

Q. 10. Do you think any reduction could be made in the Fire Engine Establishment?—A. No. The main strength is reduced in the rains.

Q. 11. Who superintends the Department?—A. Captain Birch; the whole Police Establishment, European and Native, is available in cases of emergency and difficulty.

Q. 12. If the Magistrates were charged with the Judicial Conservancy business, would their labour be increased much?—A. No, the number of cases in the Conservancy Department is small, and their importance light,—I subjoin a part of my Annual Report of 1832.

Q. 13. The charge for repairing the Roads for 1835-36 (No. 10) is stated to be Sicca Rupees 49,615-4-10, being Sicca Rupees 28,658-11-8 for materials, Sicca

Rupees 17,950-11-8 for labour, and Sicca Rupees 3005-13-6 for rollers,—can you give us the particulars?—*A.* Yes, I add a Statement. The first item is for Khoa. Its price became gradually so much reduced by the effect of competition for Contracts, that it was no longer possible to obtain Khoa of a first rate quality. On an enquiry held by me, it was found that the Contractors were in the habit of making up, by short delivery, the sum that it was clear they must lose by the rate, the stuff was inferior, but bad as it was, it could not be supplied at the low rate. I saw no effectual remedy, but demanding from the Contractor, a deposit of Government Paper as Security for the due fulfilment of his contract, and directing the special attention of the Superintendent, to see that the check on delivery was more effective, and the quality improved. The price has risen considerably—from 9 to 13 Rupees per hundred Farrahs. The present Contractor says that the price is still too low. He was once unable to supply material according to his contract, and I attached a portion of his Deposit. He is, I understand, engaged to supply bricks to the principal builders, and from the use he is able to turn the Vitrified Bricks to, he will probably be able to supply at the contract price; the deficiencies in the Contractors delivery of Khoa have not been so seriously felt, in consequence of the considerable use that has been made of Ballast stone, by which a very excellent kind of Road is made for those parts of the Town, which are liable to great thoroughfare. Ballast stone expense is incurred for landing, breaking and carriage. I think we pay fourteen Rupees per one hundred Farrahs. The plan is not yet so perfectly matured. I think the expenses of repairing the Roads will be much lessened. The charges for the stone material, is not half more than Khoa, and I calculate that it will last at least three times as long. The second item is for the conveyance of the materials; this is also done by contract. The bills of the Contractors of Khoa, and those of the Contracts for carriage, in some measure check one another. The Rollers are useful, but very expensive; we have our own Rollers, and the charge is for feeding Horses, wages of Kalashees, purchase of Horses and Rollers, and sundry petty repairs to the Rollers.

Q. 14. What other checks are there for the accurate delivery of the Khoa by the Contractor?—*A.* With every bill for Khoa, the Contractor furnishes a receipt by the Superintendent for the quantity of Khoa charged for. This receipt is made up from the returns of the daily deliveries of Khoa at all the Depots. These are furnished by Peons, paid by Government, over whom is placed a Native, at Rupees 42 per month. The wages are however low, and it is very possible that they may write down, as received, a little more than is actually given. If however the Superintendent looks well after the work, the amount overcharged, can never be considerable. The saving that would arise from checking, such suspected malversation as I have above described, would not be sufficient to pay the large salaries that a better class of Inspectors would require. The number of Depots for delivery of Khoa, is as below, viz. under the Superintendent of Roads seven, and under the Executive Officer five. The Establishment maintained for the former is 10 Peons at 5 Rupees per month, and 1 Supervisor at 42 per month, and for the latter 6 Peons at 5 Rupees per month, and 8 Mate Coolies and 1 Bricklayer, for 41-4-4 per month, in lieu of them, Mr. Sevestre employs 5 Sircars for measuring and receiving Khoa from all Depots.

No. 24.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
27th December, 1836.

No. 24.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
27th December, 1836.

Q. 15. The charge for cleansing the Town for the year 1835-36 is stated to be (No. 11) Sicca Rupees 66,313-4-10. Feeding of Bullocks, &c. Sicca Rupees 3467-15-10. Ghowkhana Establishment Sicca Rupees 904. Bullocks purchased 166-15-9. New Carts 2,197-13, and Repairing 841-10-9. Total Sicca Rupees 73,891-12-2, will you give the particulars thereof?—A. I add a Statement of particulars.

Q. 16. Under whose charge are the Carts and Ghowkhana Establishment placed?—A. Of Overseers McCulloch and Green.

Q. 17. Whose property are the Carts and Bullocks?—A. A part is the Government property, and a part is hired; the hired Hackeries did not answer the purpose, and I got Carts built; cost of a Cart is about 95 Rupees. I have lately introduced small Carts drawn by one Bullock, which are very convenient. The Horses are employed in drawing the Water Carts, and are used in the cleansing Carts, during the rainy season, but this causes no great additional expense. The greatest expense for the purchase of a Horse, is about twenty-five Rupees—what answer our purpose, are strong bony Horses that walk well; that they cannot trot or canter is of no consequence.

Q. 18. Cannot the cleansing of the Town be effected by Contract?—A. I have often thought of trying the plan, but have been deterred by a strong apprehension, that it would fail, and an unwillingness to incur the sole responsibility, which would be serious. Any considerable increase in the filth and nastiness of the Town, especially if accompanied by epidemic sickness, would give rise to well-founded complaints. My apprehensions of failure, arise from the fact, that such contracts are not natural in this country. The Natives who would undertake it, could not be trusted, and there are no respectable Europeans qualified for it, by the possession of money and character. If a Committee of Inhabitants, such as I have recommended, chose to try it in their own Division, it might be done. It appears to me that there would always be difficulty in defining a breach or failure of contract.

Q. 19. Why are the expenses of repairing the Esplanade Road (No. 43) not charged to the Assessment Fund?—A. Because the Town has no property in the plain; it is not assessed; some of the inhabitants are fond of driving on the course; Government might very well say that those who drove should pay a toll, but they could not levy an additional assessment on the poor Natives of the Northern Division for the purpose of contributing to the pleasure of the rich, who chose to drive on the Course or the Strand.

Q. 20. The expenses of Lighting the Town of 1835-36 (No. 45) are Sicca Rupees 6253-8-1, will you state the number of lights and the names of the places lighted?—A. This expense is reduced from 9000 to 6000 Rupees. I add a recent correspondence with Government on the subject.

Q. 21. The whole of the Town is not lighted?—A. No. In the present state of the Town it is out of the question to expect the poorer parts to be lighted; part of

Chowringhee is like a cluster of country villas, part like a village inhabited by the poor, while the back of the northern part is occupied by gardens. Two-thirds of the Town cannot be treated in the same way that it would be desirable to treat the space most densely inhabited. An European system of taxation providing for good drainage, good lighting and watering, might be applied to the square bounded on the south by Esplanade Row and Dhurumtollah, on the east by the Central Road, on the north by Mutchwa Bazar Road, and on the west by the River.

No. 24.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
27th December, 1836.

Q. 22. The expenses of Watering for 1835-36 (No. 44) are Sicca Rupees 24,715, being fixed Establishment Sicca Rupees 21,872, Repairing Aqueducts 571-2-1, new Tunnel 2,272-12-2, will you mention the places watered for this expense?—A. Of the total 21,872 Sicca Rupees 4,320 is for working the Steam Engine at Chandpaul Ghaut by contract, and Sicca Rupees 17,552 the amount allowed by Government for watering Roads. Of this latter amount considerable savings have accumulated, and out of this accumulated fund several works of public utility have been paid for, viz. an additional Reservoir, an additional pair of Pumps for the Steam Engine, an extension of the Aqueducts down Park Street as far as Free School Street, Chitpore Road as far as the Foujdaree Balakanna, and the Loll Bazar and Bow-Bazar Roads—what is watered out of this fund, is the Roads on the Plain and in front of all Government Property.

Q. 23. The Chitpore Road is not watered out of this charge?—A. No. The Chitpore Road is watered from the interest of a subscription raised by Mr. Trower, chiefly in 1829, which amounted to Sicca Rupees 31,850; a small Tank was dug out of that fund which cost Sicca Rupees 11,850, and the balance is invested in Government Securities, yielding annual interest of about Sicca Rupees 1000—the expense of watering is Sicca Rupees per year.

(N. B. Expenses of Watering the Chitpore Road for five seasons, viz. from October 1831 to June 1836, amount to Sicca Rupees 4,911-4; a fair average cannot be obtained as the quantity of Road watered was gradually extended.)

Q. 24. Have you made any calculation what it would cost to water the whole Town?—A. The same remark applies to this question as I made on the subject of lighting, and it is in vain to calculate the expense of watering all the lanes in the Town, for we cannot expect the inhabitants of these lanes would consent to defray the charge. The expense of watering Chitpore Road is 1,440, taking that as a mean breadth, then the expense of watering the Roads, as per margin,* would be Rupees 80,000. This is necessarily a vague guess: it is however founded on low data, and would consume 2 percent. of the Town Assessment.

* Statement not given.

No. 26.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
28th December, 1836.

No. 25.

December 28, 1836.

DAVID McFARLAN, Esq. *further examined.*

Q. 1. The Magistrates' and Superintendent's Salaries amount to Co.'s Rupees 8,262 per mensem, do you consider that expense necessary?—A. No; I have recorded my opinion very extensively in that respect some time ago, a copy of my opinion is annexed.

Q. 2. Has the system of the division of the Judicial duties of the Town under separate Magistrates, while the Executive duties are performed by the Superintendent, worked well?—A. Very well. The Superintendent of the Police, upon its present footing, is a very necessary Office.

Q. 3. Don't you think that the duties of a Magistrate may be performed also by the Superintendent without inconvenience,—formerly the Magistrate in the Report Department used to perform the Executive duties?—A. It is very important to separate the Executive from the Judicial functions, and I am of opinion that the Office of the Superintendent should continue separate.

Q. 4. There are five Magistrates, do they all attend the Police daily?—A. Yes.

Q. 5. At what hours do they attend?—A. I have no record of the precise time of their coming to and leaving Office—in general they come at eleven and go about three or four—my power is no wise greater than or different from the Division Magistrates—Government have directed me to perform certain other duties, and any attempt on my part to obtain more extensive powers of regulating attendance or dictating duty would do more harm than good. When prevented by sickness or other urgent cause from attending, the Magistrates always obtain the assistance of some other Magistrate.

Q. 6. Could you conduct the whole business of the Police with a less number of Magistrates with the same efficiency as at present?—A. Yes; myself and two other Magistrates could do all the work.

Q. 7. And with your other duties as Member of the Military Board?—A. No; in that case I should propose to take up all important cases, and to be always ready at the Police Office.

Q. 8. Does not Mr. Blaquiére, besides being a Magistrate, hold the situations of Interpreter of the Supreme Court and Collector and Superintendent of the Abkaree Tax?—A. Yes.

Q. 9. Mr. Robison and Mr. McMahon have no other avocations?—A. Mr. Robison I believe has no other duty. Mr. McMahon is Controller or Examiner of Lottery Drawings, but that does not occupy much time.

Q. 10. Does not Mr. O'Hanlon, besides being a Magistrate, hold an important situation in the Insolvent Court?—Yes; only I cannot say whether the situation is important or not.

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Q. 11. What do you think would be the proper Salary for two efficient Magistrates to enable them to devote the whole of their time to the Police, and do you think an efficient Chief Magistrate may be chosen from the Service at a less Salary than what you would expect, on giving up your seat in the Military Board?—A. I think Rupees One Thousand and Four Hundred, and One Thousand would be proper Salaries for the two Magistrates, and you might get a very proper person to act as Chief Magistrate for a Salary of Rupees Two Thousand per month. If you select him from the Service you would probably have to give more. The Office should not be filled by a young or inexperienced person.

Q. 12. Does Captain Birch devote the whole of his time in conducting the duties of the Superintendent of the Police?—A. Yes; including under that term the business of collecting the Assessment. He assists also in checking Salt smuggling for which he receives an allowance.

Q. 13. A sum of Sicca Rupees 7,392 is charged in the Accounts of 1835-36, as Law Charges (No. 33,) what does it consist of?—A. Of the Clerk of the Crown and Crier of the Supreme Court's Fees for the business done in the Criminal Sessions.

Q. 14. In the General Department are employed (No. 16.)

One Accountant, at Company's Rupees...	418	0	0	per month.
One Keeper of Deposits, &c.....	292	9	8	"
One Chinese Interpreter,.....	52	4	0	"
One Bengallee and one Persian Writer, } at 15-10-9 each	31	5	6	"
Nine Menials,.....	40	2	9	"
Five Peons,.....	25	11	9	"
Eleven Men and two Boats' hire for sinking } dead bodies,.....	52	4	0	"

Co.'s Rs. 912 5 8

Are all these necessary and reasonable expenses?—A. They are. Mr. Watts who gets Co.'s Rs. 418 is a very useful and efficient man—Mr. Habberley who gets Co.'s Rs. 292-9-8 is my Clerk in the Judicial Department; he has a great deal to do. His work might be done for a less charge, but it would be hard to deprive him of his allowance after a service of 35 years. The Bengallee and Persian Writers are necessary, as I have to carry on a great deal of correspondence with the Muffusul in those languages. The Menial Servants and Peons, as well as the Establishment of Boats for sinking dead bodies, are necessary. The Chinese Interpreter might perhaps be dispensed with by hiring a man occasionally when required; but the allowance was fixed very many years ago, and such is the rancour of Chinese hostility that there is use or advantage in having some one dependent on ourselves alone to interpret.

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Q. 15. Could any reduction be made in the Establishment of the House of Correction (No. 19) amounting to Co.'s Rupees 299-8 per mensem?—A. No; in addition to the Salary of the Keeper I give him thirty-five per cent. of the produce of the Convicts' labor.

Q. 16. What is the average monthly expense of keeping a Convict in the House of Correction?—A. About two rupees four annas each upon an average, including Europeans, whose keep costs four annas a day.

Q. 17. There are ninety-six persons employed in the Town Guard, exclusive of five Sergeants (No. 22), are they necessary?—A. Yes; they are employed for the general purposes of the Police.

Q. 18. The Establishment of the Magistrates' Office, the First Division, amounts per month, Co.'s Rs. 398 15 2

2d Ditto,	„	358	12	10
3d Ditto,	„	404	6	4
4th Ditto,	„	487	2	6
		1,649	4	10

Can any part of these be reduced without inconvenience?—A. Yes; materially. The First Division would be efficient with one Interpreter, who is also to act as

Clerk, Salary per mensem,	„	150	0	0
One Writer,	„	40	0	0
One Duftory,	„	8	0	0
One Brahamen,	„	7	0	0
One Mollah,	„	7	0	0
Two Peons,	„	10	0	0
		222	0	0
The Second the same,	„	222	0	0
The Third the same,	„	222	0	0
The Fourth the same,	„	222	0	0
		888	0	0

Q. 19. Why did you not propose the reduction to Government?—A. It is always painful to deprive old Servants of their situations; any such reduction would have been exceedingly unpalatable to the Division Magistrates and would have tended to obstruct the easy working of the system established in 1830. In my Annual Report of 1833, I proposed reduction in the Office of Conservancy Sirkars, that was referred by Government to the consideration of the Division Magistrates, and the question has not to this day been disposed of; under the then circumstances it seemed to me very needless to stir unpleasant discussions from which I had no reason to expect any beneficial results.

Q. 20. What is your opinion in respect to the whole of the Native force under the Police, they appear to be large?

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Thanadaree Establishment,.....	1398	Men
Siddiwallee or Boundary Guard,.....	274	„
Girdwaree,.....	60	„ *
Opurgustee,.....	23	„
River Chowkey,.....	103	„
Town Guard,.....	96	„
Female Kattarah,.....	6	„
	<hr/>	
	1960	

A. I think it is very desirable to have an efficient force distributed in the Town, and am of opinion that there should not be any reduction in the present strength of the Police: the strength of the boundary guards is now less necessary since the Town duties are abolished—but they do occasionally stop stolen goods passing out of the Town—on the River face they are absolutely necessary. A more explanatory statement of the Native Police Force and its duties would stand thus :

Thanah Establishment {	Night Watch,.....	723
	Day ditto,.....	444
		<hr/>
	Chowkeydars	1167
Thulpuhroos:--these are Stationary Guards at Thanahs }		74
ready to receive all reports,.....		
Boundary Guard, including Boat Chaprashees,		354
Town Guard Pykes and Opurgushtees,.....		192
		<hr/>
		1787

Taking the houses in the Town at 50,000 the above gives as a night watch about 43 houses to each man.* It is not desired that I should enter upon the question of Police duty. I may mention that the existence of a strong body of Police, available for all duty, is not only necessary in a place like Calcutta; but that they are in fact very severely worked.

* On this subject, see a report of a Committee of Magistrates, dated 3d Nov. 1821.

Q. 21. With reference to question (No. 15) of yesterday, will you state under what checks the contractors and others, bills for cleansing the Town are paid?—A. The contractors' bills for hackeries, coolies, &c. are checked by the returns of the inspecting overseer (Statham) who attends at the muster of the coolies and hackeries every morning, and by the monthly returns of the Overseers of Divisions. Mr. Statham's returns and those of the Overseers are, in the first instance, compared, and the contractors' bills then examined by those returns. The rates at which the hackeries, bullocks and coolies are supplied are fixed by me. The hours of work are from six in the morning until two in the afternoon. All absentees are deducted from the totals mustered. The Feeding bills are checked by the number of bullocks. Two seers of gram and seven seers of straw being allowed to each. The Overseer in charge of the Gowkhana certifying that the

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price is the average Bazar price. For horses the Overseers are allowed Ten Rupees a month to cover all expenses of feeding. All the bills for cleansing the Town are examined by Lieutenant Abercrombie and are countersigned by him previously to being passed for payment.

No. 25 A.

No. 25 A.

STATEMENTS OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE POLICE BEFORE TWO MEMBERS
OF THE COMMITTEE.

Woomachurn Doss.

Woomachurn Doss, writer, employed in copying the correspondence of the Chief Magistrate with Government, has been engaged for twenty-six years, (gives in a statement of the particulars of his duties.)

Cossinauth Doss.

Cossinauth Doss, writer, has served for thirty-two years, keeps the accounts of the Police Office, under Mr. Watts, writes the cash book, and makes abstracts, and enters into regular books.

Surroopchunder Doss.

Surroopchunder Doss has served twelve years, assists Cossinauth Doss, prepares fair copies of accounts furnished to Government of disbursements in the judicial and assessment departments, docketts cash vouchers, enters lists of establishment paid monthly, and does miscellaneous business as required by Mr. Watts.

Punchanund Bannerjee.

Punchanund Bannerjee has been employed since 1830, keeps Pay books of conservancy peons and sircars and other servants, copies Sitting Justices' contingent bills and keeps accounts of the stationery, checked by Mr. Watts, also accounts of the Conjee House.

Duftery rules the Books of the assessment, judicial and conservancy departments, and makes pens.

Peon carries letters under Mr. Watts' order.

Muddunmohun Chatterjee.

Muddunmohun Chatterjee, sick, acting for him—*Unoopchunder Mojoondar*, writes the Bengalee cash accounts of the several departments, docketts in Bengalee the bills passed for payment after examination.

Goluckchunder Mookerjee not forthcoming, explanation required.

Hurromohun Sircar.

Hurromohun Sircar keeps Accounts of the pay of the Thana Establishment and writes the receipts of the people, each person giving a separate receipt. Mr. Peterson superintends the payment since 1828. There is a man named Nubkissen, whose business is to make payments and receive cash from the Treasury—gets Rupees six a month.

Rychurn Seal, Poddar, examines the money received from the Treasury, has a man under him, paid by Ramjoy Mookerjee rupees eight. He gets rupees ten. Hurrymohun makes the payments.—*Rychurn*, also examines the money received in the Office—he has served nine years.

Rychurn Seal.

Mr. H. C. Watts is accountant, has the examination of all bills, and sees that there is authority or vouchers for all that is passed, as well as that the charges are calculated correctly. Sees to the keeping of the accounts. The daily cash is posted by the subordinate establishment under Mr. Watts' instruction. The correspondence of the Chief Magistrate is under Mr. Watts' charge. Weekly dieting bills of the Police Hospital checked by the returns of the surgeon, ditto dieting prisoners in the House of Correction, calculation of dieting Town Guard prisoners checked by Mr. Watts. The returns of prisoners are not made to Mr. Watts. Preparation of Annual and Quarterly statements. Sees to the payments of all the establishments, which are not charged to the assessment funds. Checks generally the Treasurer's accounts.—*Mr. Watts'* salary is paid from the general fund. On an equal distribution the assessment ought to pay half. Mr. Watts' office existed before the assessment tax was established. The establishment under Mr. Watts is charged to the assessment fund. *Woomachurn Doss*, 62-11-3, and *Ramchand*, 25-1-3, ought to be charged exclusively to the judicial. *Cossynauth*, 62-11-3, and *Surroopchunder*, 25-1-3, half and half, so also *Dufturee* and *Peon*. No security is taken from the Cash-keeper, who is also Cash-keeper in the Abkaree department. The balance of 1st May 1831 being assumed to be correct, the present balance that ought to be in his hands can always be shewn; but as the cash is blended with that of the Abkaree of which the balance is unknown to Mr. Watts, it is impossible to ascertain whether it be forthcoming. The person who was the Treasurer's security is dead. He is a very old man, and has generally a balance of Rupees 30,000 on hand. The balance consists of an old balance in the assessment department, originally of Rupees 6,000, now accumulated to Rupees 8,000. Cash balance of the town duty fund amounting to Rupees 11,000, and about the same amount in the account of the Sitting Justices' department. This last arising from saving in the watering fund and contingent charges. There is at present no check to shew that the sums brought to account of fines imposed by the Magistrates of divisions are correctly stated. Mr. Watts suggests that their clerks should prepare a statement from the books of proceedings and send it to him weekly or monthly. Part of the balance in the Cash-keeper's hands consists of the arrears of salaries not drawn by the parties. This amounts to about Rupees 5,519-10-9. In service eight years.

Mr. H. C. Watts.

Shaik Haroo, in service eleven years. Salary Fifty Sicca Rupees per month. Interprets Chinese language to all the Magistrates when required,—not employed daily, but attends daily at the Police Office.

Shaik Haroo.

Syed Noorally employed since 1833. Salary Sicca Rupees Fifteen; writes Persian Roobakarees in Mr. Robison's, Mr. O'Hanlon's and Mr. McMahon's Offices for transmission to the Muffusul Police, and explains Persian Roobakarees received from the Muffusul Police to the three Magistrates above-named. Is employed by the Superintendent and some of the Magistrates to examine servants of European

Syed Noorally.

and Native Gentlemen, when any theft is committed at their houses, by means of Rice ordeal. The process is this. One sicca weight of rice is weighed for each servant to be chewed a week before the process: he goes to the house, and taking down the names of the servants, apprise them that in a week they will be required to undergo the ordeal of rice, if the stolen property is not found within that time. In some instances the stolen goods are recovered by these means—the servants being apprehensive of not being able to get off clear by the ordeal, throw the property in some part of the house. If the property is not found by the end of the week, the ordeal comes on, and the person, from whose mouth the rice comes out in dry dust, is suspected, his house is searched, and sometimes the stolen property is found therein, and sometimes the thief, after the process, acknowledges his guilt and restores the property. Is not employed every day.

Gooroodoss Mookerjee.

Gooroodoss Mookerjee is Mohurer and assistant to the Cash-keeper, who is his father. Salary Sicca Rupees Twenty-five. Has been about eight years in the service. Has not given Security. The Cash for payments passes through his hands. He keeps all the vouchers till the accounts are translated into English, when the vouchers are delivered to Mr. Watts, who returns the account counter-signed as compared with the vouchers. Suspense account vouchers remain with him till final adjustment. He superintends the Bengalee Rokur which is written fair by Onoopchunder. Cannot say what is the balance in the cash chest on any particular day—that, his father only can speak to, he is now sick, may be able to attend on Monday or Tuesday.

Mr. Joseph Samuel.

Mr. Joseph Samuel is Clerk and Interpreter in the Conservancy department, attends the Magistrates sitting in conservancy cases. Salary Rupees two hundred and fifty. Has been about thirty-two years employed in the Police as head clerk—has charge of the correspondence and records. The weekly returns of the collections, and the annual, half-yearly and quarterly statements made to Government pass through his office—the latter are drawn up in his office. A Brahmin and a Mollah are employed with the Chief Magistrate, and the Magistrate trying conservancy and assessment cases. Mr. Samuel takes depositions when directed by any of the Magistrates.

Gooroopersaud Bose.

Gooroopersaud Bose being sick, his son, *Doorgapersaud Bose* is acting for him. Gooroopersaud has been twenty-two years in the employment of the Police,—is now under Lieutenant Abercrombie. Copies the reports from the Thanas or Sircars regarding the state of roads, drains or nuisances, and sends the book containing them to the Executive Officer for orders. There are three or four reports daily on an average. Reports of repairs required as sent in weekly by the Overseers are likewise entered by him into a book for the order of the Chief Magistrate. Two or three such reports are sent in monthly.

Nilmoney Sein.

Nilmoney Sein assists Gooroopersaud and writes the monthly abstract of people and establishment employed under the Overseers and makes out the bills and accounts of watering the roads. Checks contingent charges by the Overseers' reports, and enters the bills into a book. Checks Gowkhana bills by reports of Overseers and Muster master. Formerly the Conjee House report

books came under his charge, but from press of business that duty has been transferred to Pauchoo Bonerjee in the assessment department. Keeps daily report of steam engine expense. Also checks lighting contractor's bills by reports from the Thanas and Sircars—salary Sicca Rupees Twenty—has been twelve years employed.

Mr. H. G. Statham is Inspector of Muster of conservancy supplies, people, carts, &c. and prepares a daily return accordingly. During the day employs his peon Ram Seal to see that the people are at their posts and report accordingly. Serves the summonses on Europeans in the conservancy department and executes all warrants. Is entitled to warrant fees, but these are generally remitted. Does not realise Rupees Twenty-five per annum by fees. Salary is Sicca Rupees One Hundred. Superintends repairs of Kacha and Pucka roads on the Plain and Cooly Bazar. All the drains and tanks of the Esplanade are under his care; also the children's walks. Superintends the day and night patrol of the Esplanade and receives their report at Monohur Doss' Tank Guard House. Prepares a daily return of his expenditure on the roads and drains of the Esplanade, and quantity of Khowah used. Mr. Abercrombie has one person and Mr. Statham another to look after the delivery of Khowah. Besides which Mr. Statham measures the quantity of work done, and can thus check the reports of deliveries. Has been employed for eight years in the Police, was formerly a ship's steward. Ten Coolies are employed on the children's walks in keeping them in repair.

Madhubchunder Seit, Writer in the conservancy department. Salary Sicca Rupees Sixty. Has served about fourteen years; takes down the reports in the judicial department of the conservancy, not in the executive department. On the report book the Magistrate enters his directions as to summons or otherwise. When a summons is ordered, the complaint is entered into the case book, in which the Magistrate enters his own proceedings. Draws out notices and summonses and writes Mochulkas or recognizances on account of nuisances. Abstracts reports of cases disposed of in the conservancy department; receives fines levied by the conservancy Sircars and pays them to the Khazanchee; makes out statements of fines from the book of proceedings and calls on the Sircars for realisation. There is no check on him. The Cash-keeper does not know what amount the Sircars pay, but merely receives what cash is paid to him. Fills up warrants and subpœnas in the conservancy department; attends the Magistrate in bringing up cases for trial. Mr. Samuel attends Mr. O'Hanlon, and Maudhubchunder attends Radhacaunth Deb; gets a receipt from the Cash-keeper. The receipts are compared with the Cash-keeper's books by Mr. Watts and returned to Mr. Samuel. There is a register of fines. Mr. Samuel takes in a book of his own, note of the fines imposed by the Magistrate on any day, to which the Magistrate affixes his signature, by which he checks Madhubchunder's statement. Mr. Watts is enabled to check the Treasurer's books by comparing them with Mr. Samuel's report book—Vide Mr. Watts' evidence.

Isserchunder Singhee, Salary Sicca Rupees Twelve. Has served eleven or twelve years; copies the report into the book of proceedings; fills up building

licenses; copies reports referred to Overseers or Superintendent of roads. Copies miscellaneous letters.

Mr. John Siret,

Mr. John Siret, Overseer of Watering and Lighting. Superintends those duties in that part of the Town lying to the south of the Scotch Church, the Dhurrum-tollah, and all to the southward. Salary Sicca Rupees Sixty. Has been employed for fourteen years. Superintends the lighting generally. Mr. Clarke superintends the watering of the river side. Mr. McCulloch that of Cluitpore roads, and Mr. Campbell that of Park street; sees the Engine at Chaudpaul Ghaut worked seven hours a day for eight months in the year, and looks after the distribution of the water to the several aqueducts; has no assistance in looking after the lighting of the streets; reports when the contractor for lighting neglects the terms of his contract. The Chokeedars are also expected to report in such cases. There are in all at present 307 lamps contracted for, at Company's Rupee One, Two Annas and Six Pie per lamp per mensem; six more lamps have lately been added for the New China Bazar. The contractor does not furnish the lamps, but only the oil, wicks, &c. and keeps the lamps clean. The lamps and lamp posts are furnished by the Executive Officer Mr. Sevestre. Fines for breaking lamps are applied to replacing such as are broken. Looks after the whole of the aqueducts. The extent of Road watered was ascertained in 1823-24 to be 14 miles. This extent has been added to, but Mr. Siret cannot say how much—will, with Mr. Watts' assistance, ascertain how many cubic feet of water are raised by the engine, and give a statement of the length of road watered from the aqueduct—also how much road is watered at the expense of Government, and how much by individual subscription, with the expense of each.* Mittoo, the Jemadar at the steam engine, attends to the opening and shutting of the sluices. The contract for working the engine is in the hands of Jessop and Co. at Rupees Four Hundred a month, for which they supply fuel, grease, &c. keep the engine in order and work it seven hours a day, during eight months of the twelve. Formerly the contract was for Rupees Three Hundred and Sixty per mensem. The contractor keeps the engine house in repair.

* Statement not given.

Mr. J. J. N. Macan,

Mr. J. J. N. Macan, Deputy Superintendent of Police. Salary Sicca Rupees Two Hundred and Seventy-five; has been about nineteen years employed. Duty to assist Captain Birch generally. At the Police Office receives instructions from any of the Magistrates regarding matters of Police. Looks after the constables in the execution of their duties. Warrants for arrest of persons pass through him and are handed to some one of the constables by him. He sees that the constables do not neglect their duty. In cases brought up from the Thanas the reports are taken down in writing in books for each division, and the orders of the Magistrates are therein noted. The Thanadars first report verbally to Captain Birch, who directs what complaints ought to be reported. Mr. Macan will make out a statement of his various duties, and of those of his establishment generally.*

* Statement not given.

Mr. Bernard Furie,

Mr. Bernard Furie, is clerk in the department of Superintendent of Police. Salary formerly Sicca Rupees One Hundred, to which Company's Rupees Fifteen have been added since February last. Has served about three and a half years. Is principally employed in the Shipping Department taking statements of ships' crews and passengers; preparing voluntary affidavits; registering Mokhtar-

namahs and other papers brought by natives for that purpose; assists in preparing abstracts of crimes from the Thanah books; assists generally the Deputy Superintendent as a clerk; has no writers or other establishment. There is a separate Moollah as well as a Brahmin, for administering voluntary affidavits, receives the fees for affidavits, enters them in a book in which the Cashier's acknowledgement of the amount is entered. This book furnishes Mr. Watts with the means of checking the Cashier's accounts. The list of crews, &c. are filed, bound up, numbered and indexed by Mr. Furie. The fee for lists of ship's crew entering is Rupees Three, and for clearing Rupee One. (Subsequently in a note to the Chief Magistrate states, that he neither assists nor is assisted in preparing the annual abstract of crimes; but the whole business of reading the cases, classifying them into the daily abstracts, watching them to their termination, forming the monthly and annual abstracts, is entirely in his hands alone.)

Ramjoy Mookerjee, Cashier, has been employed for forty-four years—salary *Ramjoy Mookerjee*, as Police cash-keeper Sicca Rupees 60, and as Abkaree cash-keeper Sicca Rupees 40 = Sicca Rupees 100. All the cash of the Police and of the Abkaree is kept in the same chest, and along with it the cash of several private gentlemen, as Mr. Clarke and Mr. Dickens, as well as private cash of his own. Nobody ever examines the cash balance in the chest. Once when, by desire of Mr. McFarlan, Mr. Watts examined it, he found rather more than was due to the Police. Mr. Watts did not reckon the Abkaree cash, of the amount of which he had no cognizance. "Being answerable for what is due to the Police, I might throw what cash there is in the chest into the sea. I keep no book shewing the balance of cash in hand from day to day. I keep on slips of paper memoranda of cash received from the Treasury, and of cash paid to the Poddar for distribution." Will prepare a statement both of the Police and the Abkaree cash balance, distinguishing the effective from the non-effective amount; has no security since the death of his surety twenty-five or thirty years ago.

Mr. Philip Delmar, is French Interpreter and Deputy Surveyor under Mr. William Anley, in the European distillery, in the Abkaree department. As French Interpreter receives Rupees Fifty a month and as Deputy Surveyor of European Rum distilleries Rupees One Hundred and Fifty; attends the Police daily in case of the examination of Frenchmen; as Deputy Surveyor examines and enters all passes, granted and received back; produces the book in which those entries are made; all country Rum passed into Town is brought in the first instance to the Police to be gauged and to ascertain its strength, except what is bonded in the Custom House for exportation. With that exception all Rum passed into Calcutta from country distilleries pays six annas per gallon, which is levied at the Police Office, either at once when the parties are not known, or at the latest within the week. The Mohurer of the department, Hulloodhur Chatterjee, enters the sums received in a separate book, which must correspond with Mr. Delmar's, and the cash-keeper signs when the cash is paid into his hands. Mr. Anley sees that the receipts and payments correspond, and he annexes his initials accordingly. Each Soorce has his separate account besides. Cannot state exactly what Mr. Anley's duties are. There are two gaugers attached, 'One to the License department and the other to the European distillery department.

Mr. W. H. Grant. *Mr. W. H. Grant* is a writer in the Judicial conservancy department, enters the quarterly statements of the collections of the assessment, enters also references to the Superintendent of roads in common with Isshurchunder Singhec. Fills up warrants for contempt issued by order of the Sitting Magistrates. Has been employed since 1829 on a Salary of Sicca Rupees Twenty.

Hurriputtee. *Hurriputtee*, Assistant Register of Ticka Bearers, keeps in the Ooriah language a list of all Ticka Bearers of whom 10,700 are entered. By means of this register he is able to trace and to produce any one of the whole number. There are about four or five thousand constantly plying for employment. Each man pays six annas for his badge which is supplied by Hurriputtee. Salary Ten Sicca Rupees a month. Mr. Leal keeps a Register in English, shewing the names of each Bearer, his father's name, the place of his birth, and his residence in town, with the number of his badge.

Mr. Julian. *Mr. Julian*, a writer under the Superintendent of Police, has been employed for eighteen years. Salary Sicca Rupees Fifty-two. Takes down in writing the verbal report of the Thanadars and Boundary guards. The offences, &c., reported and taken down by Mr. Julian are for the Superintendent's office. The officers of the Sitting Magistrates take the reports of the cases brought before the Magistrates. The orders that have been passed by the Magistrates on the report cases are entered in the same book by Mr. Macan and the book is submitted to Captain Birch for his information.

Mr. Peterson. *Mr. Peterson* has been employed for six years under the Superintendent of Police on a salary of Sixty-four Sicca Rupees; keeps the Pay books of the establishment; pays each individual—the total number about 2500; assists the Superintendent in removing any individual and procuring others, and in writing or copying all public documents or correspondence. Notes down all discharges and leaves, and the names of persons employed in their room. Fines imposed by Captain Birch are collected by deductions from pay, and the amount handed over to Mr. Macan, is afterwards expended in furnishing occasionally blankets, great coats, &c. as rewards.

Mr. D. Williamson. *Mr. Duncan Williamson* has been recently employed in the room of Mr. Corneill, salary Company's Rupees Thirty; is a writer under the Superintendent of Police; keeps a daily muster of the numbers, well, sick or absent at all the Thanas.

Mr. M. J. Wade. *Mr. M. J. Wade* has been employed since June, 1834, salary Sicca Rupees Thirty-five; is a writer in the department of the Superintendent of Police; keeps a register of summonses and subpoenas issued daily; keeps also a report of patients sent by the Police to the Native Hospital, in which the surgeon enters his remarks on the state of the patient at admission.

Samuel Clark. *Samuel Clark*; Salary Sicca Rupees One Hundred as Overseer of Strand and adjacent roads; Sicca Rupees Thirty for looking after the bank, and Rupees

Twenty for superintending stone ballast; employed since 1823; produces a copy of Instructions specifying his several duties.

Syamloll, Persian Moonshce, reads and explains Roobakarees of the Moffussul Courts, whether in Persian or in Bengalee, to the Chief Magistrate; also writes out the Purwanas of Roobakarees sent from the Chief Magistrate's office to the Moffussul; salary Sicca Rupees Thirty-five; has served five years.

Syamloll.

Hushmut Ally, Moonshce, assists Syamloll; keeps an index for reference of all Persian documents, and of the manner in which they have been disposed of; salary Sicca Rupees Twenty-five; has served twenty-one years. Vide Syud Nooral's evidence.

Hushmut Ally.

Buzoo, Jemadur, absent.

Buzoo.

Anwar Khaw, Dufstory, served eighteen years; salary Eight Sicca Rupees; employed in the office of the Deputy Superintendent; makes ink, pens, rules books, and seals and deposits the stolen goods in the godown under Mr. Macan's direction, and delivers the same to the proper parties under the orders of Mr. Macan. The key of the godown remains with Mr. Macan.

Anwar Khaw.

Bhoochoo Khan, is a Summons Peon; wages Sicca Rupees Five; has served about ten years; gets presents from the plaintiffs—of four, eight annas or one rupee, as they think proper; was appointed by Mr. Trower. Vacancies are filled up by Captain Birch. There are eight men for each Division, with one Jemadar over the whole. The Jemadar musters the Peons and attends on Mr. Macan. No dustooree is paid to him by the Peons. One of the Peons says he gets about one summons every other day; another that he does not get above six or seven to serve in the month. Serve subpoenas and give notice to parties and to the Thanas; also carry notes or letters when the Magistrates' peons are not present.

Bhoochoo Khan.

Lieutenant W. Abercrombie, Engineer, Superintendent of roads and of conservancy and public works; salary Company's Rupees Six Hundred and Fifty; appointed about a year ago. Mr. Sevestre is his Executive Officer and Mr. Clark, Overseer of the Strand roads, for his immediate Division. With respect to repairs of roads, either orders them to be repaired on his own observation of what is requisite, or from the reports made by the Conservancy Sircars, or the applications of individuals. Reports of repairs required by drains are likewise under his cognizance. Employs a writer to copy all his proceedings; reports, orders on those reports, and estimates. There were formerly six Sircars for the Town and one for Kiderpore for measuring Khoa at the Depots. Those had ten Peons under them. Instead of those Sircars there is now one Supervisor who sees to the measurement of the Khoa by the Peons who deliver it over from the several Depots to the establishment of the Executive Officer. The four European Overseers look after the cleansing of the roads and drains. Mr. Green and Mr. McCulloch have each a Gowkhana under their charge. Examines and checks the estimates and bills of the

Lieut. W. Abercrombie.

Executive officer which are then passed by the Chief Magistrate, according to whose orders Mr. Watts settles the Executive Officer's accounts. Has no account department. The bills from the Gowkhana pass through the same course. So also the contractors' bills for coolies, cattle, and hackeries, for the scavengers department. The charges are first examined by Sibnoth Chatterjee, writer, and then some of the items checked by Lieutenant Abercrombie, which being found correct the bill is passed. Receives from the Native Supervisor a daily statement of materials for the repairs of roads furnished by the contractors, which have been delivered to the Executive Officer, whose outlay is checked by the inspection and measurement of the Superintendent. The Contractor for conveyance of the Khoa is paid according to the quantity delivered to the Executive Officer and to the distance to which the materials are to be conveyed: the Supervisor reports on the quality of the materials, which are also inspected by the Superintendent. All cases of alleged encroachment reported to the Magistrate are referred to the Superintendent, who satisfies himself by ocular inspection; of these, there are sometimes as many as half a dozen places to be visited; thinks that these cases might in general be safely referred to the Overseers—and to the Superintendent only in case of dispute. Superintends the lighting and watering and collecting subscriptions for watering. Mr. A. has also to examine and report on alleged nuisance from drains. *Mr. Sevestre*, the Executive Officer, is considered by Mr. Abercrombie to work on more moderate terms than could be obtained from any European Tradesman. The rates have been reduced by the last Superintendent as low as possible. Has no establishment allowed him at the public expense, except one Sircar and one Bricklayer. He makes what profit he can out of his estimates.* Mr. Abercrombie thinks that though a Native Mistree might be engaged for the duty on a smaller salary and would engage to work on equally low terms, there would be constant danger of imposition by inferior materials; Mr. Sevestre, as Executive Officer, looks after the repairs of the roads, of which the materials and labour are supplied by contract. For this he has nothing but his salary, unless in his bills for cutting and levelling the roads preparatorily to laying on the new materials which are passed as charged. There are twelve men employed at the Gowkhana, as smiths and carpenters, who are employed in repairing the carts. Their aggregate salaries amount to Company's Rupees 106-2-4. They have no other pay or emoluments. Teencowree Jemadar, put down as Overseer of the Circular Road, is a Pensioner (subsequently added—but he reports whenever repairs are given or required to the Circular Road.) There are seventeen Sircars and twenty Peons employed in reporting nuisances. Ten Peons, as already stated, are employed by the Superintendent in looking after materials for roads, exclusive of six Peons in attendance. Seven Peons are employed by the Executive Officer in looking after materials, besides six more in attendance on him for occasional purposes. Three are in attendance on Mr. Watts and ten on Mr. Samuel in the executive department. Three are employed with Mr. Statham, and six under Mr. Clark. Two formerly employed have been abolished since Mr. Trower left the office. Eight mate coolies are employed by Mr. Sevestre in superintending the coolies employed in spreading materials on the road. The Head Mahtrancee looks after the public taces. Twenty-four Khalashees are employed under the Overseers in keeping the roads and drains clear. Twelve

* Subsequently corrected.

Chokeedars are employed in preventing nuisances on the Plain. Five boats are employed in conveying away filth, and one in sinking carcases.

Hurrydoss Sen is employed in the room of Madhubram Dutt, as a writer, under the Superintendent of Police. Salary Sicca Rupees Thirty-two. Keeps the list of parties sentenced to the House of Correction, also keeps in a book for the purpose, copies of Purwanahs sent to be backed by the Magistrates of Calcutta. The English and Bengalee are copied by Hurrydoss, the Persian by Mudungopaul Mojoomdar. The average of commitments to the House of Correction are two or three per diem. Of Purwanahs the same—or less. Hurrydoss Sen.

Radhaballub Dutt, writer, under Superintendent of Police, for five years. Salary Sicca Rupees Twenty; keeps a Register of all cases of theft averaging from twelve to twenty per diem. Prepares daily a list of from twenty to thirty prisoners in the General department; keeps a list of arrivals and departures taken from the reports of two Sircars, who are employed at the Ghauts for that purpose, as part of the River Chowkee Establishment. There has been in January about one entry per diem; keeps a statement of gunpowder passed into Town by permission. There has been an average of one entry for two days in January. Keeps a list of Europeans sent to the General and Police Hospitals, averaging fifteen a month, also of persons sent to the Insane Hospital, averaging six or seven per mensem; also Dawk receipt book and Receipt for letters delivered in Twenty-four Purgunnahs, or by Hurkuras of the Police. Radhaballub Dutt.

Bykunth Bonerjee employed since 1830. Salary Thirty Sicca Rupees per month. Enters in English in a book reports of prisoners in the Town Guard from a Bengalee book written by Ramtonoo Chatterjee, containing names of prisoners, number of the Thana, date of confinement, offence and sentence: the number for the month of October 1836 is 338. Enters in a Book weekly reports, also made up in Bengalee by Ramtonoo Chatterjee, of the Town Guard, Thana and Kattara Prisoners, for Mr. Macan, specifying names, division, and number of the Thanahs, date of confinement and the offence. Number of entries in the week, ending 16th January 1837, amount to one hundred and twenty. Copies depositions taken by the Chief Magistrate in the usual form, the number of which amount in four or five days, about the time of the Criminal Sessions to about five daily, and in ordinary times four or five a month. Prepares Calendar of prisoners committed for trial in the Criminal Sessions. Writes contingent bills for repairing Thanahs, and all other contingent bills passed through the Superintendent of Police's Office. Sometimes fair copies letters drafted by Mr. McFarlan, Captain Birch and Mr. Macan on Police matters. Bykunth Bonerjee.

Mudungopaul Mojoomdar, employed ten years, salary Thirty Sicca Rupees, enters in a book Persian Notices, Subpoenas, Roobakarees received from the Muffusul Police and Courts. Reads and explains to Mr. Macan Persian Robakarees received from Muffusul for apprehension of Runaway prisoners. Enters in Bengalee in a book the number of daily deaths and amount of funeral charges of the Hindoos by the report of the two Ghaut Sircars stationed Mudungopaul Mo-
joomdar.

at the Nimtolah and Cossy Mitter's Ghauts, specifying the disease by which the deaths occur, and in the same way in Persian the number of monthly Mussulman deaths, &c. by the reports of two men stationed at Manicktollah and Cossia Bagan by the Mussulman community, who are not paid by the Police.

Ramtonoo Chatterjee *Ramtonoo Chatterjee*, employed Thirty-four or Thirty-five years, salary Sicca Rupees Ten per month, keeps Bengalee Phuttuck book of prisoners in the Town Guard, Thannas and Kattara, Weekly Reports of ditto, keeps an account of the daily Khoraky allowed to prisoners, and the Moodies' monthly bills for the same are examined by him before they are passed for payment. Christian prisoners get one anna per day each, Native boys, six pie, and grown up men, nine pie. In the Female Kattara, the Christians and those Native females who have no relations get one anna, girls six pie, grown up women nine pie, and the children of prisoners three pie per day. The Phuttuck book specifies name of the prisoner, his father's name, caste, number of the Thana by which committed, name of the prosecutor, nature of offence, date of confinement, orders passed by the Magistrate. In the Female Kattara book, the name, caste and age of the prisoner, number of the Thana by which committed, date of confinement, name of the prosecutor, number of the Division in which tried and orders of the Magistrate are inserted.

Nusrodeen Mahomed *Nusrodeen Mahomed*, Nauzeer, employed since 1816, salary Fifty Sicca Rupees per month, attends daily on the Superintendent of the Police, when he hears the Thana Reports. He produces the Chokeydars found guilty of neglect of duty, before the Superintendent. When a theft is committed at any house, he is sent there for enquiry, receives informations from the inhabitants and Goindahs and represents them to the Superintendent. Gives any information which may be required of him by any of the Magistrates. Being acquainted with the old offenders, when any of them is apprehended for a new crime, his former delinquencies he represents to the Magistrates and the Superintendent. Obtains information as to the river thefts and communicates the same to the Superintendent, and uses general surveillance.

Petumber Chatterjee, *Petumber Chatterjee*, Bengalee Mohurer, salary Sicca Rupees Fifteen, has been employed for about ten years. The stolen goods that are brought before Mr. Blaquiere are put under his care. Those that come before the other Magistrates are placed under Mr. Macan's charge. Those entries occupy thirteen double pages of a Bengalee Book for the year 1836. The articles are kept in a separate godown of which he keeps the key, has no other duty at present. When property remains unclaimed, it is sold by Auction, and the proceeds paid to the Treasurer. Has no receipts for such payments. Mr. Macan says the stolen property and unclaimed goods that are committed to Petumber Chatterjee's charge are not delivered to him for sale, neither do the proceeds pass through his hands. Mr. M. produces a receipt from the Cash-keeper for Sicca Rupees 3,826-14 paid to him on this account on the 7th November 1836. Keeps an indexed book of sales.

Buzoo, *Buzoo*, Jemadar of Peons, Pay Sicca Rupees Sixteen, has been employed for Twenty-five years. The Summon Peons are under his superintendence. Does not appoint them, nor give them any orders, calls the Plaintiffs and Defendants in the Office of Mr. McMahon.

Hulodhur Chatterjee, a Writer in the European Rum License Department, keeps the accounts with the distilleries. Copies the applications for passes and the Gauger's reports into a book, when they are examined and certified by Mr. Delmar. There are on an average seventy such entries monthly, occupying each half a folio page, also a book into which those passes are abstracted, giving a tabular statement shewing the persons to whom passes are granted, the quantities passed, the distilleries whence passed, and the amount of duties. This statement for three months occupies twenty pages folio. The additions are not made up for the last four months. Keeps a daily receipt book which is signed by the Khazanchee. The receipts for each day are paid over at once, after which Mr. Anley puts his initials. These daily receipts are then abstracted into another book shewing the monthly receipts from each of the four distilleries. Wages Sicca Rupees Thirty-five, has served for fourteen or fifteen years. Hulodhur Chatterjee

Mr. Delmar states that as Deputy Surveyor, he may be sent by Mr. Anley to observe the distilleries of European Rum, to see whether the Sircars and Peons be in attendance, to watch the quantity made and removed. Mr. J. Andrew acts for Mr. Paul as Gauger, when he is unable to attend from illness or otherwise. Has not at present any employment at the wharf. The Custom House employs a separate Gauger. This department has nothing to do with European spirits imported by sea. Mr. Delmar

Lieutenant W. Abercrombie. The receipts he grants for materials supplied by the contractors are compared with the daily reports received from the Khoa Sircar, which are added up at the end of the month by his writer; can hardly check it if the Khoa Sircar is dishonest and makes false reports; as there are several depots, the Sircar must necessarily depend upon the reports of the Peons. The hackeries coolies, bullocks &c., are all supplied by contract, and the bills are checked from a daily report (of which a copy is furnished). Also checks the bills for cleansing from daily reports (of which a copy is delivered) and those reports which are signed by Mr. Statham Muster master, Lieutenant Abercrombie compares again monthly with the reports sent in by the different Overseers. The daily reports do not include the Strand roads, reports of which are furnished by Mr. Clark monthly. Lt. W. Abercrombie

Mr. H. G. Statham, at the corner of the Dhurruntollah road, musters the two Southern Divisions one day, and at the corner of the Mutchwa Bazar road on the Circular road called Mirzapore, musters the two Northern Divisions another day. Thus attends the two musters alternately; the day he does not attend the muster of the Northern Division he sends a peon to see and report to him as to the number of persons working, which report he compares with the returns of the Overseers; this peon is also employed in keeping the native subordinates in check, that they may not allow the workmen to go away during working hours. The same course is pursued in the Southern Division; makes a daily return of the muster, deducting all absentees and those who misbehave. The peon he finds a very effectual check. Mr. H. G. Statham.

Lieutenant W. Abercrombie. The Superintendent's measurement of the Khoa after it has been laid down has, since giving his evidence, been determined by the Chief Magistrate to be an insufficient check, and the deductions made by him from the Lt. W. Abercrombie

Khoa and carrying contractors' bills re-allowed; there is therefore at present, no effective check on the measurement.

Mr. H. C. Watts.

H. C. Watts. (additional statement.) The preparation of the annual statements of crimps for the Chief Magistrate's Report to Government is also a part of his duty, and is one of immense labor. The Police Hospital Establishment has undergone some change since. The employment of convicts in making flour, &c. is found much more profitable than making Soorkie. The flour making system was introduced in 1835. The more favorable account shewn for 1836 is therefore accounted for. The additional pumps put up last year occasion the increase of the rate of Messrs. Jessop and Co.'s contract for working the Steam engine at Chandpaul Ghaut. The authorised establishment of Female Kattarah is Co.'s Rs. 33-4-1 per month, but the actual establishment is something more. The eight Burkundosses charged in the Town Guard establishment are peons attending at the Police Office with prisoners. Besides the fixed establishment for sinking dead bodies there is a small monthly charge for ropes, &c. Mr. McFarlan's plan was to discharge all the Sirkars for reporting nuisances in the Conservancy department, and to make the Thanadars do their duty. He has since changed his opinion on this subject. Examines the monthly abstracts of cases disposed of in the Conservancy department and sees that the amount of fees and fines given, corresponds with the Magistrate's case book. There is no comparison made with the cashier's book though he has always found the fees and fines brought to credit to agree with Madubchunder's abstracts.

No. 26.

W. C. Blaquiere, Esq.
2d March, 1837.

No. 26.

2d March, 1837.

WILLIAM COTES BLAQUIERE, Esq. *further examined.*

Q. 1st. You promised to send us copies of the monthly statements of the Abkaree Tax as furnished to Government since May last, have you brought them with you?—*A.* No, the accounts are not yet sanctioned by Government, there are some difficulties in the Audit Office, in consequence of the Abkaree Accounts never having undergone audit before.

Q. 2. If the delay lies in the Audit Office, we can apply to Government about it?—*A.* No, there is no necessity for that, I expect to get back the audited accounts soon.

Q. 3. But you can send us copies of the accounts you sent into Government unaudited; we are desirous to make our Report and we cannot complete it without these accounts?—*A.* Very well, I will send the unaudited copies as you wish it.

Q. 4. It appears that an impost called "still head duty" is levied at the rate of six annas per gallon on all rum brought into the Town from the country distilleries, except what is bonded at the Custom House for exportation, the collection of which is in your hands—and that the produce of this impost for the year 1836, amounts to Sicca Rupees 22,359 0 0 while the charges of Establishment at
 Sa. Rs. 1,024-6-4 per month are Sa. Rs. 12,292 12 0
 and your Commission at 2½ per cent..... 558 15 7

12,851 11 7

leaving only net produce of.....Rupees 9507 4 5
 surely the charges are too heavy?—A. Yes, they appear so at present. There were a number of distilleries under my charge when the establishment was fixed. They have now dwindled away to two, but the establishment remains the same. It is a large establishment. It is all under me as Magistrate of Twenty-four Purgunnahs and as a Muffusil establishment. The duty of six annas per gallon is not an *Import Duty*, but a 'still head duty levied on all rum manufactured according to the European process wheresoever manufactured under a Mofussil Regulation. There is no such a head of duty as import duty on Bengal Rum, none being ever levied.

Q. 5. Mr. Anley is put down as Surveyor at a salary of Sicca Rupees Three Hundred and Fifty per mensem, and Mr. Delmar as Deputy Surveyor at Sicca Rupees One Hundred and Fifty per month—What are they Surveyors of?—A. They survey the size and number of the Distils.

Q. 6. Do they ever go to the Distilleries?—A. Very seldom.

Q. 7. Then they are useless?—A. No, they are not quite useless, they gauge and pass the rum that comes to Government.

Q. 8. At all events Mr. Anley and Mr. Delmar have very little to do?—A. Yes, they have very little to do.

Q. 9. What are the two Gaugers for?—A. One for the Custom House Wharf and the other for the Police Office.

Q. 10. Is there employment now on the Custom House Wharf for a Gauger?—A. Yes, a great deal of rum comes on the Wharf, some came yesterday and some the day before.

Q. 11. Is this a tax on the people of Calcutta?—A. No, it is a duty levied on rum manufactured all over the country, whether brought to Calcutta or not. The licensed rum shops could not consume more than the quantity—(three hundred and eighty gallons per month) for which they pay the retailing tax of Five Rupees per diem.

No. 26.

W. C. Blaquiére, Esq.
2d March, 1837.

Q. 12. Then do you mean to say that this rum is exported by sea?—A. No, the quantity allowed is consumed in Calcutta, the surplus partly exported by sea and partly to different parts of the country, viz. the quantity imported in 1836, amounts to 59,624 gallons, of which I allow 36,480 gallons to be consumed in the eight retail rum shops, leaving an excess of 22,144 gallons, some of which is exported by sea, and the remainder to different parts of the country.

Q. 13. Would not one gauger be sufficient, especially as the Collector of Customs employs a separate gauger?—A. I hardly think one gauger would be sufficient. The gauger employed by the Collector of Customs has nothing to do with us. You might dispense with the services of one gauger. The gauger on the Wharf was useful when Brandy and other European Spirits imported by sea, paid the Police duty of three annas per gallon; which is now consolidated under the new Tariff and collected by the Customs Collector.

Q. 14. How are the thirteen Sirkars employed?—A. They are stationed round the boundary guards and at the distilleries and office.

Q. 15. Under what head is the produce of European distillery tax credited in the Government accounts at the General Treasury?—A. Under the head of Muffusil Abkaree Tax, that is, Still head duty, and as such the amount is levied and remitted by me to the General Treasury, in my capacity of a Muffusil Magistrate, and has no connection whatsoever, with the retail duty on the spirits levied by me in the Town in my capacity of a Justice of the Peace.

No. 27.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
2d March, 1837.

No. 27.

2d March, 1837.

D. McFARLAN, Esq. *further examined.*

Q. 1. Mr. Watts has stated that Ramjoy Mookerjee, the cash-keeper of the Police, has generally a cash balance of thirty thousand rupees on hand, and by a statement furnished by Ramjoy himself it appears that from May to December of the year of 1836, he had in his hands a cash balance of from thirty to forty-three thousand rupees. Have any steps been taken to reduce this balance, or to enable you to know exactly what sum is actually in the cashkeeper's hands?—A. All money we now receive is sent to the Bank of Bengal, and for the current disbursements we pass orders on Ramjoy against the old balance. This has, I understand, reduced the balance in his hands to about four or five thousand rupees, but the full and complete account has not yet been written up. He says himself that he has overpaid the balance.

Q. 2. Might not the Fire Engine Establishment referred to in your former evidence, be almost entirely reduced from the commencement to the end of the rains, and how are the two constables employed during that period?—A. The main strength of the establishment is reduced during the rains, as will be seen by the statement I have furnished. It is necessary to keep up a few hands both to keep the engines and hose in order, and form a small body of experienced hands on which to engraft the temporary ones. We last year made the constables' services otherwise available during the rains, but I find that they are not very fit for the general duties of the Police; there was always unwillingness on Captain Steel's part to employ them.

No. 27.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
2d March, 1837.

Q. 3. Might not the cleansing of the Town by contract, notwithstanding your unfavorable opinion expressed on a former occasion, be tried in one Division of the Town, say the Fourth or the Chowringhee Division, where the contractor would be under the supervision of the European inhabitants, subjecting him to a fine by the Magistrate in case of any nuisance being permitted to remain?—A. I have no objection that such an experiment should be tried, but I have great doubts of its success. In most parts of the Town the drains are not of masonry but mere ditches. They require being dug out yearly; where there is a constant dribbling of foul water from kitchens and from the cooking of Natives, these drains cannot be kept sweet. I do not know how you could word your contract. For the mere removal of stable dung and offal from the streets a contract could be made; but unless the contractor had well-constructed carts, and had some precise notice where he was to carry his sweepings, he could not contract at low rates. At all events my opinion is, that it never should be tried until we are assured that the inhabitants would take an interest in keeping down expense and in seeing that the duties were properly performed.

Q. 4. If the Magistrates are confined to their judicial functions, could they not also perform the duties of the Commissioners of the Court of Requests?—A. I cannot answer this question, because I do not know the extent of a Commissioner's business, but I can say, that one Magistrate may very well do twice the work he does now.

Q. 5. You reckon the monthly expense of keeping convicts in the House of Correction at two rupees and four annas each, is that exclusive of the amount of their earnings by labor?—A. Yes, exclusive of the earning.

Q. 6. Is the thirty-five per cent. of produce of convict labor allowed to the keeper of the House of Correction, upon the gross produce or net profit?—A. Upon the net profit.

Q. 7. Have you ever compared the expense of the hired and Company's carts for the cleansing of the Town, &c., if so, what is the difference?—A. We have constant discussion about it. A hired cart and bullocks would perhaps appear cheaper at the first glance, but its quality is inferior and it would not convey the quantity a Company's cart would carry. This year we have made up all our own carts and we only hire bullocks now.

No. 27.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
2d March, 1837.

Q. 8. With reference to the list of establishment it appears to us that many of them have not sufficient to do, cannot a reduction be made?—*A.* I have gone over the list several times, but I find it very difficult to touch the Division Magistrates' establishments.

Q. 9. But we also allude to some in your own Office, for instance Womachurn Doss and some others do not appear to have much to do?—*A.* In my Office every one has plenty to do, Mr. Watts complains of want of hands. I subjoin a statement of his in which he very justly, I think, asks for a better establishment.

Q. 10. In the Conservancy Department Mr. Samuel does not appear to have much to do?—*A.* Mr. Samuel is an old servant; I recommended to Government four years ago a reduction on the whole of the Conservancy establishment. I add a letter from Government of the 19th December, 1834, and my reply, together with a schedule showing the savings subsequent to my appointment.

No. 28.

Mr. William Anley,
5th March, 1837.

No. 28.

6th March, 1837.

MR. WILLIAM ANLEY, *examined.*

Q. 1. How long have you held the situation of the Surveyor of Rum Distilleries?—*A.* For fifteen years.

Q. 2. What is your salary?—*A.* Sicca Rupees three hundred and fifty per mensem.

Q. 3. What are your duties as Surveyor?—*A.* I superintend the Rum Distilleries under Mr. Blaquiere, prepare licenses for their establishment, have charge of the office duties, inspect the importation, gauging and proving of all Rum, superintend the levying and collection of the duty, and paying the amount into the hands of the cashier; the title of the appointment is that of Surveyor, but the duties performed by me (as well as my predecessor) are those above described.

Q. 4. Do you visit the Distilleries?—*A.* If any occasion occurred it would be my duty to visit the Distilleries, but this has not happened of late years. I receive daily reports from my own sirkars of all that is done at the Distilleries. A book of monthly Bengalee reports is kept on record; formerly I checked the importation of Rum on which duty had been levied in the Moffussil, levying additional duty when the gauging shewed that the spirit had been originally under-charged. The sirkars and peons are stationed by me successively at the different places, being commonly changed once a year.

Q. 5. How many Rum Distilleries are there under charge of Mr. Blaquiere?—*A.* There are now at work only four Distilleries, of which three are at Sookchur

and one at Fort Gloster. Formerly there was a large Distillery at Achceepore, another at Akra, one at Ishera, and one at Khidderpore, besides one at Bandel, now under the Collector of Hoogly, and one at Dhoba, now under the Collector of Burdwan.

No. 28.

Mr. William Anley,
6th March, 1837.

Q. 6. How are the thirteen sirkars employed?—A. Three or four of them are stationed at Sookchur and one at Fort Gloster; the others are stationed by Mr. Blaquiere, three at the Police and the others with the Boundary guards.

Q. 7. How is the duty adjusted?—A. The shopkeepers are frequently allowed a month's credit for the duty.

Q. 8. You have a separate account with each shopkeeper we believe, will you produce these accounts?—A. I have not brought them with me, but will send them for the Committee's inspection.

Q. 9. Does all the Rum distilled pay the still head duty?—A. Yes, except that which is bonded at the Custom House for exportation, much in fact of what is brought to the Police to be gauged and which pays duty is not consumed within Calcutta. A pass is directed to be given by the Distillery Sirkar for the quantity applied to be brought into town to be gauged and proved. The Rum is accordingly accompanied by a chalaun from the sirkar and peons attached to the Distillery, and after duty paid the chalaun is receipted and returned to the sirkar at the Distillery as his voucher and a rowanah is given to the owner, which enables him to convey the Rum any where but to the retail shops unless specially directed.

Q. 10. Have you any knowledge of the quantity of Rum sold in the licensed retail shops?—A. No; I do not check the quantity consumed by these shops.

Q. 11. Have you any other duties to perform than what you have mentioned?—A. Formerly all the Rum provided for Government by contract and which amounted from forty to sixty thousand gallons per year was gauged, proved and assessed by this department, and the Distilleries were under the surveillance of the Surveyor, but this has not been the case since the Burman War.

Q. 12. Will you look at this list of establishment and state your opinion whether it could be reduced?—A. The establishment has become disproportionately heavy and more than adequate to the existing duties of the department. I think the European Distillery and License Departments might be managed by the Officers of my establishment. A wharf gauger has now become unnecessary. Mr. Andrew, the clerk of the License Department, having resigned, I am willing to undertake his duties in addition to my own.

Q. 13. Do you think it would be expedient to levy the same still head duty on Bengal Arrack as on the Rum reducing the shop tax on both?—A. I think such a course would be expedient, and that on such an arrangement the use of Rum would greatly supercede the more deleterious spirit sold as Arrack or Doasta, which is distilled with an intoxicating drug. (*The witness gives in a statement of the size of the stills at Sookchur and Fort Gloster.*)

No 29.

Capt. F. W. Birch,
6th March, 1837.

attend processions and keep the peace, and one from each Thana attends every morning before the Superintendent of Police with the reports of the night. The Town Guard is inadequate to the duties it has to perform. The duties of this class are to guard the Phatuk or Lock-up House and Town Guard, the Police Office, the Grand Jail and House of Correction and the Collector of Assessment's Office, to attend on Sundays at the different Churches in Calcutta, to attend all processions to keep the peace, to furnish parties to go out into the districts with Purwannahs for the apprehension of offenders, to escort prisoners to and from the Police, to act on any emergency in support of the European force, and in conjunction with the Pyke guard to patrol the whole town on what are called the Huזור rounds or the rounds sent by the Superintendent of Police to see that the several Thanas are on the alert and attentive to their duties; the Pyke Guard is composed of Bengalees generally of the class of Dooliah, their duties are similar to those of the Town Guard, with the exception that they are exclusively employed when sailors are concerned and in connection with the shipping.

Q. 5. Do you think the different classes might be amalgamated, so that all might be liable to perform their various duties by rotation, or occasionally, as required, so as to admit of a reduction in the number of any of those classes now appropriated for a single duty, for example, might not the day and night Chowkeedars perform the same duties by rotation: all being employed in the day and night duties indiscriminately, and might not the duties of the Pykes and Town Guard, when required be performed by Chowkeedars, if a small addition were made to their number? and whether thus or otherwise the aggregate of the watching establishment might not be reduced?—A. Certainly not. It is absolutely necessary to keep the night and day Chowkeedars distinct. The night Chowkeedars receive a lesser rate of pay than the day Chowkeedars, who are liable to detention at the Police Office—to be sent off with prisoners—to accompany the officers in searches, &c. It would be quite impracticable to establish a routine of relief and watch so that the duty should fall equally on all. The day Chowkeedar is glad to get his rest, and the night Chowkeedar (who is only when absolutely required, called on in the day) has had his rest, and is ready for the performance of the night watch, neither can the duties of the Town and Pyke Guard be performed by the Chowkeedars, who are wanting in the physical strength and courage of the up-country men, who form the Town and Boundary Guard. The several establishments are fitted for their particular duties, which should be kept as distinct as possible, any amalgamation would be attended with mischievous results, and I would strongly recommend an addition instead of a reduction of the present Police force, which might then be perfectly adequate to the performance of other duties, in conjunction with their present ones.

Q. 6. Might not the Thanadaree establishment, in particular the Boundary guard, be entrusted with the prevention of illicit importation of spirits and illicit sale in unlicensed shops?—A. The former duty is already very generally performed by the Boundary Guard and the latter by the Thanadaree Establishment, in as far as reports of such unlicensed sale are made to me, and forwarded by me to Mr. Blaquiére, whose particular Department that is.

Q. 7. Might not the Chowkeedar Establishment be employed in reporting encroachments or other nuisances as well upon ruinous buildings, obstructed or filthy drains, unrepai red roads, &c. and other matters requiring the attention of the Conservancy Department?—A. Reports of ruinous houses are already made by me to the Chief Magistrate, and sometimes of nuisances; my duties take me daily into all parts of the town, and I have the opportunity of observing all that requires to be amended. I have neither the knowledge nor the time required to superintend the making of roads or drains, but for all other matters of conservancy I have always considered them strictly allied to the duties of a Superintendent of Police, and consider myself and my establishment quite adequate to the duties of general conservancy.

Q. 8. Would it add much to the labours of your watching establishment to report upon empty houses?—A. I could not depend solely on the watching establishment for such report. They act as a very good check on the present mode.

Q. 9. Could you with your existing establishment undertake the collection of the Abkarree under the license department?—A. I think with a small addition to my existing establishment (and certainly with a great saving in the present cost of collection) that I could undertake the duties of the Abkarree collection.

Q. 10. In what way do the Thannah cases come before the Magistrates. Do the Thannahdars report directly to them or do you direct the Thannahdars as to the cases which it may be necessary to bring to the notice of the Magistrates and discharge the rest?—A. All cases are immediately reported direct to myself at whatever hour of the day or night they may occur—I make enquiries and direct such cases as I think necessary to be taken before the Magistrates, but all proceedings, in limine, are on my own responsibility, and during the night and from the previous evening until office hours on the following morning, and from Saturday evening until office hour on Monday morning, I am obliged to confine or release on security, to search and apprehend as I think the case may warrant. Of the cases brought up during the day, some I settle amicably, others I dismiss or direct the parties complaining to take out summons before one of the Magistrates, and those of importance and requiring judicial investigation I direct to be taken before the Division Magistrate.

No. 30.

J. H. Stocqueler, Esq.
9th March, 1837.

No. 30.

9th March, 1837.

J. H. STOCQUELER, Esq. *examined.*

Q. 1. Do you know of any instance of premises in town being inaccurately valued by the Assessors for the purpose of Assessment?—*A.* I have heard that owners have sometimes imposed on the Assessors as to the rents received from their premises, but am not aware of any instance from my own knowledge.

Q. 2. Have you any suggestions to offer for the improvement of the Assessment of the town?—*A.* I think that a tax, independent of the Assessment, might be levied on the occupiers of Houses, granting them the right of controlling the disbursement by Committees of their own nomination, not that they would tax themselves, but that they would more cheerfully submit to any necessary impost over the application of which they held the control. The tax might bear relation to the amount of house rent paid, or taxes might be levied on wheel carriages or horses. Some of the Members of those Committees ought to be invested with some Magisterial powers, and receive a remuneration for their trouble. This would enable Government to reduce the number of Police Magistrates. I think that the Superintending Engineer and Overseer of Roads ought to be under the control of the Committees of inhabitants.

No. 31.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
24th April, 1837.

No. 31.

24th April, 1837.

DAVID MCFARLAN, Esq. *further examined.*

Q. 1. It appears that notwithstanding the precautionary measure adopted by you to reduce the cash balance in the Police Cash-keeper's hands, as stated in your last examination, you have not only been deceived in your supposition that the balance was paid up or considerably reduced, but that an embezzlement of some extent has been since discovered, what is the result of your investigation upon this?—*A.* There is now due from the Treasurer, to my Office, about 13 or 14,000 rupees. The cash balance in Ramjoy's hands was reduced 17,000 rupees in the months of January and February, and had the remittance he was required to make

to the General Treasury been made (and it was not until the middle of March that I discovered it had not) it would have been still further reduced by 7,050 rupees, leaving no more than 6 or 7,000 rupees to be accounted for; a sum of 2,500 rupees has been paid and we anticipate that 13,000 will be paid shortly.

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D. McFarlan, Esq.
21th April, 1837

Q. 2. What measure have you adopted to guard against loss by embezzlement in future?—A. The system is now altered. The orders on the General Treasury for cash are now sent into the Bank of Bengal for realisation, and payments are made by cheques on the Bank drawn by me. These cheques are signed with the bills or vouchers pinned to them. There is never more than 4 or 500 rupees retained in the Office, and that amount never for more than a day or two during the payment of the Establishment. The new arrangements are found to work well.

Q. 3. What was the cause of the failure of the appointment of the Municipal Committee recommended by you in 1833?—A. The failure was caused by the indifference of the inhabitants.

Q. 4. What attempt did you make to form the Committee for the appointment of which you were authorized by Government to arrange the details, and what practical mode did you adopt to come to the conclusion referred to in your pamphlet?—A. My answer to this question must allude to general considerations. I am hardly at liberty to mention the individuals by name on whose opinions and feelings I chiefly relied. They were not matter of record and cannot now be pointed to as evidence. When the paper on this subject was printed in February, 1834, the people who attended to the matter at all, were somewhat surprised at such sentiments being entertained by the Government and those employed by it. Some were gratified and others quite the reverse. The press I think applauded, and then shewed that the veto was enough to negative the whole question. I had calculated on some members of the Bar or other usual leaders of the Calcutta public taking up the question. I found them very indifferent about it. Support was promised generally and coldly; no one was disposed to take a lead. I believe that a requisition for a meeting if it had been called would have been signed by few and certainly not by those whose assistance would have been desirable. I mean men accustomed to business of the sort. Besides the only use of such a meeting would have been to have approved of the plan and to resolve that voting should commence in some division of the town. They could not have compelled men to vote or people to serve as Committee men. Amongst the native population an effort was made by Dwarkanath Thakoor to get the principal householders together at the Police Office. It entirely failed. There was upon the whole abundant evidence that Calcutta was not ripe for popular measures of this description. If any doubt were entertained on the subject it would I think be dissipated by a perusal of the proceedings of the Town Hall meeting held on the 12th April, 1836, which in fact originated the present Committee. It will be there seen that Mr. L. Clarke, the Chairman, stated that the sole measure out of which improvement would result to the Conservancy of the town was to place it under the control and management of an able and intelligent body of men sitting as an efficient Court of Quarter Sessions. There was no one at that meeting to propose the appointment of Committees, or to suggest the enactment of a law such as I proposed in my address of the 5th February, 1835 to Mr.

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D. McFarlan, Esq.
24th April, 1837.

McNaghten. In that communication it was proposed that a meeting should be called on the application of 21 or more householders, in any division. I scarce think that 21 or more householders could be found in any division willing to take the trouble of calling a meeting, and certainly no division in which two-thirds of the persons qualified to vote would exercise their privilege, but unless there were an agreement by a majority in the measures to be adopted, nothing it is plain could be done. Of all evils I know none greater *than* that power acquired by a small minority of the community by means, not of wealth, respectability or public service, but by taking advantage of the letter of some public proceeding. The great use of this discussion has been that people are more accustomed to view the operations and expenditure of the Conservancy as subjects in which they have an interest, and that they are assured that the Government is willing to grant them full power over their own funds as soon as they demand it. In the meantime taxes for the improvement and comfort of the wealthier portion of the town should be imposed by Government, when if I am not greatly mistaken the Committees would in some form or other spring into existence.

Q. 5. Did you call a public meeting?—*A.* No, as above mentioned I did not call a public meeting because I was satisfied that it would be a failure. Improvements of this kind must be demanded by the people—you cannot coax them into adopting them.

Q. 6. What is your impression as to the probability of the inhabitants coming forward now to form Committees for the management of Conservancy affairs?—*A.* I do not think that there is now any more willingness on their part to come forward than there was in 1833. If the enormous taxation and labour of management which will be requisite on any new arrangement, calculated to recast and improve drainage are understood, people could not be found willing to undertake the duty and raise the funds; my opinion still continue unchanged about this. People here are too busy to attend to any thing of this kind unless indeed a heavy taxation is imposed on them.

Q. 7. Was not the circumstance of the *Veto* being reserved to the Chief Magistrate in the 4th section of the proposed Enactment, one of the great objections to the formation of the Committees of the inhabitants?—*A.* It was so, among the people who discussed the project at all.

Q. 8. What is your opinion in regard to cess pools?—*A.* They are exceedingly beneficial; if every householder was to have a cess pool for the deposit of cookroom washings, a principal cause of nuisance would be entirely cut off. The wells must be very carefully looked after and could hardly be left as public privies to the management of the poor. I agree with the opinion expressed by Mr. Blaquiére and think that every person should be compelled to construct a cess pool for kitchen use.

Q. 9. What is your opinion in regard to the appointment of a Clerk of the Markets, with reference to the report of the Police Committee of 1830 (page 17) and of Mr. Meyer's evidence before that Committee (page 92,) and also to the fixing of standard weights and measures under the superintendence of the Clerk of

the Markets and compelling venders to sell by those weights and measures, and empowering the Clerk of the Markets to examine and seize all false weights and measures?—*A.* On this point I agree with the resolutions of Government of 17th November, 1821. It is quite clear that while the Bazars are private property, a Clerk of the Markets cannot be appointed without an enactment to authorize it; such interference would not be justifiable without satisfaction for infringement of private rights, such an appointment must be well paid and would certainly not be worth its cost. If a man likes tainted fish or blown meat, why should he not buy it? If I am offended with the smell, I have only to keep away, and according to my means endeavour to establish a better Market. It might be a good thing to empower conservancy overseers to inspect the state of the drains and the cleanliness of the Markets, and to subject their owners to a fine on conviction of filthiness—further I would not go. That would require a special law; the gates of the Tiretta Bazar were once shut against Mr. Barwell, the Chief Magistrate. The establishment of the Dhurumtollah Bazar has had an effect in cleansing the Tiretta Bazar: the public as they improve in their taste will command cleaner Markets. As for the attempt to regulate all the weights and measures of the town, it is out of the question; the poor native shopkeeper cannot afford to purchase our fine weights—he is found all over the town, in every lane and gully. If the weights in the Bazar are regulated, the principle should be extended every where, we should have the town overrun with the myrmidons of the weight searcher. When he went to inspect, good weights might be produced, when his back is turned, the false would be brought into play, or a plug would be dexterously inserted in the weight (as Rupees are plugged) which would be extracted when the Officer was gone. In fact any system of this kind is clumsy. Your Police mark would often be used to deceive the people. The best security is the alertness of the people, and the placing at their elbow, a ready mode of testing the accuracy of the weight. Standard weights and measures are distributed in the following parts of the town, viz. Chandney Choke Thana, Tiretta Bazar Thana, Haut Khola Thana, the Superintendent of Police Office, and the Chief Magistrate's Office, to which any person may refer to examine the goods purchased or weights of shopkeepers for nothing. I add a copy of my letter to Government dated 29th February, 1831, on the subject of standard weights and measures. We require very much a Bye-law to enable Magistrates summarily to punish persons using false weights and measures—they ought now, strictly speaking, to be committed to the Criminal Session of the Supreme Court.

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D. McFarlan, Esq.
24th April, 1837.

No. 32.

W. C. Blaquiére, Esq.
24th April, 1837.

No. 32.

24th April, 1837.

WILLIAM COATES BLAQUIERE, Esq., *further examined.*

Q. 1. You have heard the question put to Mr. McFarlan respecting the embezzlement of Police Cash by the Cash-keeper Ramjoy Mookerjee. Is there any deficiency in the Abkaree Cash?—A. The Abkaree accounts consist of sums received and transmitted to the General Treasury monthly, deducting commission and establishment. Ramjoy was not a defaulter on the 31st January, 1837. Abkaree accounts were square to that date within one hundred Rupees, (a statement shewn exhibiting balance in Ramjoy's hands in the License Department of Rupees 86-5-7 and European Distillery Department 170-15, Total Rupees 257-4-7). The daily collections of February were received by him and the accounts made up on the 28th. On the 1st March the usual letters to the Sub-Treasurer, transmitting the amount collected in February were written out and signed by me, and delivered to the Cash-keeper, to be taken with the Cash to the General Treasury. On enquiry on the second, by asking for Mr. Oakes' receipts, it appeared that the month's collections had been embezzled, with a few other items, amounting to Sicca Rupees 17,027-15-11 besides 2,194-7 collected on the 1st March, making together 19,222-6-11. A statement of the deficiency shewn.

The sum deficient,	16,137	7	0
January Balance License Department,	86	5	7
European Distillery,	170	15	0
	16,394	11	7

Also sums in deposit, —

Amount in deposit of February,	339	4	4
Former account January of License, 134	0	0	
Salaries,	160	0	0
	294	0	0
	633	4	4

	17,027	15	11
Collection made on 1st March,.....	2,194	7	0
	19,222	6	11
Deduct paid on 3d March,.....	8,255	6	0

Balance remaining due by the Cash-keeper,..... 10,967 0 11
which I have made up myself, and therefore no loss has been sustained by Government.

Q. 2. What is your opinion as to the cause of the failure to the formation in 1833 of a Committee of the Inhabitants to manage Conservancy affairs?—*A.* One great objection was the veto reserved to the Chief Magistrate.

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24th April, 1837.

Q. 3. Will you state your opinion as to the effect of cess-pools?—*A.* The drains in the native part of the Town are made receptacles for filthy water; this might be prevented by cess-pools. I have one on my own premises, which has answered. No inconvenience has been felt from it. I think they would be highly beneficial to privies. No less than thirty to forty complaints are preferred weekly of the nuisances caused by the present system of filthy water being allowed to run into the public drains.

Q. 4. What is your opinion in respect to the appointment of a Clerk of the Markets, and regulating the weights and measures under his superintendence?—*A.* I am favourable to such an appointment. I agree with the opinion expressed by the former Police Committee. In cases where the poorer class of Shop-keepers are unable to purchase fine weights I think a sufficient check would be given by sealing the common stones by the Clerk.

No. 33.

27th April, 1837.

No. 33.

Dr. S. Nicolson,
27th April, 1837.

Dr. S. NICOLSON, *examined.*

Q. 1. It has been suggested by the Council of the Native Medical College that the proposed Fever Hospital should be connected with that Institution. There is sufficient space for the building of the Hospital on the Petty Court Jail ground, where the Medical College is situated and the locality is considered favorable. The Professors of the Medical College agree to render their services gratis. The Committee wish to know your opinion upon this proposal?—*A.* There are several objections to this plan. First, a junction of the sort was not contemplated by, nor proposed to the subscribers, when they were solicited to contribute towards the establishment of a Fever Hospital; and secondly, the vicinity of the Petty Court Jail and the Dissecting-room would in my opinion form an insuperable objection to the resort of the natives to the Fever Hospital.

Q. 2. But if the Fever Hospital is kept separate from the Medical College?—*A.* The ground is not extensive enough to allow of the Hospital being so far separated from the College as to overcome the scruples of the natives.

Q. 3. There would be no connection. Both the Institutions would be kept distinctly separate?—*A.* However distinct they might be, the natives could not comprehend the distinction. The contiguity is all they would observe and that would deter them from resorting to the Hospital.

No. 33.

Dr. S. Nicolson,
27th April, 1837.

Q. 4. Supposing the Hospital to be in separate premises—there is a large space of ground, don't you think it is of great importance to have the assistance of the College Professors and Students and the benefit of the Clinical Lectures?—*A.* I have stated above that I deem it impossible to keep the Institutions so distinct as to satisfy the prejudices of the natives. But supposing that could be accomplished, the services of the College Professors would of course be of use; but I do not see that those services would be more valuable from being rendered by Professors. The patients could receive no benefit from the attendance of the Students, nor from the Clinical Lectures, though the Hospital would doubtless be a valuable School for the Students.

Q. 5. Have you any other practical objection to the two Institutions being on the same ground?—*A.* None but those above stated, which I consider insuperable.

Q. 6. Any objection to the Medical Gentlemen of the College to superintend the Hospital?—*A.* Certainly not. Competent professional Officers must of course be appointed. But whether Professors or not, I think they should receive salaries, however small—salaried Officers would be more efficient, and I should consider it objectionable to have such an Institution dependent on the gratuitous services of any professional man.

Q. 7. Will you give us your opinion in writing on Mr. Hare's letter?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 8. Do you think that the attachment of a Fever ward to the present Native Hospital would be desirable?—*A.* No. There is not space sufficient in the Native Hospital, besides it would be injurious to an Institution which has answered the purpose for which it was established, so well.

Q. 9. Do you think it desirable that the plan of the Fever Hospital should be abandoned for the plan of establishing Dispensaries as proposed by Lord Auckland in Mr. Secretary Mangles' letter of 22d November 1836?—*A.* Dispensaries can in no wise compensate for the want of Hospitals, the sick who come there for relief must perish, unless they can have the support received in a Hospital. Besides a sufficient number of Dispensaries would be expensive, but very useful. Doolies should be provided to send those who cannot continue their attendance at once to the Hospital.

No. 34.

Fever Hospital, 27th April, 1837.

DR. J. R. MARTIN, *examined*.

No. 34.

Dr. J. R. Martin,
Fever Hospital,
27th April, 1837.

Q. 1. Do you think that the attachment of a fever ward to the present Native Hospital would be desirable?—*A.* No, there is not space. I do not think the union of the two desirable, as the fever institution alone would require such magnitude as to require separation.

Q. 2. Perhaps it would not do to mix the patients?—*A.* No.

Q. 3. Do you think it desirable that the plan of the Fever Hospital should be abandoned for the plan of establishing Dispensaries proposed by Lord Auckland in Mr. Secretary Mangles' Letter of 22d November 1836?—*A.* No; the relief afforded by Dispensaries is so very unequal and of so different a nature from that afforded by an Hospital, that I would on no account abandon the purpose of establishing a Hospital for the treatment of the acute diseases of the country in favor of Dispensaries. It is in an Hospital alone that such diseases can be treated, and in fine I hold a Hospital to be necessary to the efficiency of the Medical practice. In the Dispensaries without support, the sick will die, and several Dispensaries would cost more money than one Hospital. I do not think Dispensaries would do.

Q. 4. You have heard the objection raised by Dr. Nicolson as to the connection of the proposed Fever Hospital with the Native Medical College. If the poor won't come there is an end to the Hospital. The proposed connection offers advantage of cheap Medical superintendence, and we are in want of funds. The subscriptions realized amount to about 46,000 rupees only?—*A.* There can be no sort of doubt of the advantage, if the natives agree. I have already expressed my opinion as to the facility which the connection would grant to the students of the Medical College, in my Notes submitted to the Governors of the Native Hospital dated 9th April 1835, the only doubt in my mind is that the natives will not agree to the connection. Looking over the records of the Native Hospital I find that it started with about 50,000 rupees, and for the first five years there was no addition to that amount, yet how it succeeded afterwards; so I do not despair for funds.

Q. 5. Will you give us your opinion in writing on Mr. Hare's Letter?—*A.* Yes.

No. 35.

Dr. D. Stewart,
Fever Hospital,
27th April, 1837.

No. 35.

Fever Hospital, 27th April, 1837.

DR. D. STEWART, *examined.*

Q. 1. You have heard the proposal of substituting Dispensaries for a Fever Hospital, what is your opinion upon it?—*A.* I fully agree with Dr. Nicolson, Dispensaries cannot supply the place of Hospitals, their objects and uses are quite distinct. I suspect Lord Auckland formed his idea from the practice in Edinburgh, where young Medical men are in the habit of visiting the poor at their homes. Here, however popular such a system would be, we have neither the men nor the means of establishing it at present.

Q. 2. Will you give your opinion in writing on Mr. Hare's letter?—*A.* With pleasure.

No. 36.

Mr Samuel Smith,
27th April, 1837.

No. 36.

27th April, 1837.

MR. SAMUEL SMITH, *examined.*

Q. 1. You are perhaps aware that the Committee of Municipal Enquiry are divided into two parts, one to examine on the state of drains, roads, &c., and the other to investigate the nature, collection and appropriation of the taxes. This Committee is investigating the latter. Will you state what you can propose as to the Municipal government of the town? Have you any plans to propose?—*A.* I have devoted much consideration upon the subject some years ago, but at last I gave it up as a hopeless case—all my opinions are embodied in this pamphlet, which I published some time ago. I would not take up your time by a repetition (a pamphlet delivered.)

Q. 2. In 1833 Mr. McFarlan with a view of accomplishing the object of the Municipal government of the town being transferred into the hands of the inhabitants, made a proposition to try it in one division of the town, which was sanctioned by Government; but he failed to carry it into effect. The Committee called upon Mr. McFarlan to state the cause of the failure, and he said it was owing to the lukewarmness of the people. Have you had any communication with Mr. McFarlan on that occasion, and what is your opinion as to the cause of the failure?—*A.* Mr. McFarlan took no further steps after publishing his plan that I am aware of. He was told by myself and others, that many of the middle class of the inhabitants were ready to co-operate with him, provided their suggestions were attended to, and

that they were vested with authority to carry their plans into effect. Believing that these suggestions were not palatable to Mr. McFarlan, the proposition was dropt by him.

No. 36.

Mr. Samuel Smith,
27th April, 1837.

Q. 3. In your pamphlet you mention the Lottery Profits to belong to the Local and Municipal Fund. The Committee lately examined the Lottery Accounts for two half years, and found that the surplus profit is too insignificant after payment of the Establishment and the Town Hall charges, and that there is a large debt still due to Government?—A. The debt of the Lottery arises, I believe, from Lord Hastings' grant of the surplus fund of the Petty Court being annulled by the Court of Directors, and the same being transferred to Debit of the Lottery Committee in the Government Books. The amount of grant was about Five Lacks of Rupees, I understand.

Q. 4. On what principle do you think the Abkaree tax is applicable to the Municipal purposes of the town. The Government deny it to be a town fund?—A. I will send an answer to this in writing.

Q. 5. You seem to think that the Thanadaree establishment, &c. ought to be supported by the general fund. What is the ground of this opinion, and do you think it desirable that the Magistrates should be paid by the town?—A. The assessment is applicable by Act of Parliament for defraying the charges of watching and warding. I do not think the Thanadaree Establishment properly comes under those heads, as great part of it is to keep the peace, and therefore it should be charged to the separate fund. I think the assessment ought only to bear the expense of the nightly watch, leaving the other fund applicable to general purposes. The Government ought to entrust the management of the Town fund to a corporation if they have any wish that the inhabitants should take part in the Municipal Government. It would create a new feeling, and people would readily assist—if you establish the Municipal government, we ought to have Conservancy Commissioners with Magisterial powers, paying them out of the fund. These, with the Police Magistrates, and a number of Honorary Magistrates joined together, I would call a Corporation.

Q. 6. What class of people would you propose to take the Municipal Government in hand?—A. The question is what is the Municipal government to be—how it is to be composed—until we know this, I cannot answer your question.

Q. 7. You allude in your pamphlet that the local fund is under the control of the Court of Quarter Sessions, but express some objections as to the present constitution of that Court—what are your objections?—A. The Court of Quarter Sessions is not properly constituted. The Magistrates being appointed by Government and liable to be removed at their pleasure, is objectionable. It also appears that nobody but the Chief Magistrate interferes or is allowed to interfere with the assessment—and he acts under the orders of Government, not under the orders of the Court of Quarter Sessions, which is a mere nullity as at present composed.

No. 36.

Mr Samuel Smith,
27th April, 1837.

Q. 8. You think that the whole Establishment should be placed under the direction of the inhabitants?—*A.* I do. I think the people ought to elect the Magistrates. We should not then see persons in that situation who being otherwise engaged have not time for the duties, and who are obliged to have interpreters.

Q. 9. What scheme can you propose for Municipal Government?—*A.* The heads, I will state briefly, are—the election of Magistrates subject to a Veto of Government. We ought to have a separate body as Conservancy Commissioners with Magisterial power in their own departments.

Q. 10. Why would you unite the judicial duties with the management of funds?—*A.* I do not wish to unite them, if the Court of Quarter Sessions were revived and properly constituted, they might however be united. I do not consider those duties necessarily conjoined, but unless the Commissioners have Magisterial power they cannot act.

Q. 11. How would you form a Committee of Conservancy to manage the receipts and disbursements?—*A.* I would divide the Town into four Districts. A Commissioner for each, elected annually by those who pay the assessment, with Clerks and Establishment, and sufficient powers to enforce his orders, subject to appeal to the Justices of the Peace in Quarter Sessions assembled, that is, summary powers, with a power to appeal; and if there was such appeal open, many Police cases which are now abandoned would be brought forward.

Q. 12. Do you mean to vest the Municipal duties in four Commissioners?—*A.* Merely Conservancy matters.

Q. 13. But the Government of the Town?—*A.* I would intrust the Government of the Town to a corporation to be elected annually. I would have a Chief Magistrate and a body of Magistrates resembling Aldermen, say twelve or sixteen in number, three or four in each division, i. e. I would have one Police Magistrate, one Conservancy Commissioner, and one or two Honorary Magistrates, with the usual establishment, all to be elected by the people annually. With such an establishment I think the people would readily consent to an additional tax if necessary, provided the funds were under the management of persons elected by themselves.

Q. 14. Who should be the electors?—*A.* All the tax payers of certain amount are to have the privilege to vote. The very low rate payers are perhaps incompetent. I will consider the subject and suggest a qualification for votes.

Q. 15. Would you include the Suburbs?—*A.* I would extend the limits of Calcutta, and take in the Suburbs.

Q. 16. That would require other divisions?—*A.* Yes; Garden Reach, Allipore, Entally and Cossipore each to be a division, and they might form a separate corporation or be united to Calcutta by extending the boundaries, which the Government can, I believe, do when they please by proclamation.

Q. 17. Who have concurred in this plan, and amongst the inhabitants who do you know to take an interest in it?—*A.* I can only speak for the Trade Association, who freely concur in it, and would I think take an active part in the business.

No. 36.

Mr. Samuel Smith,
27th April, 1837.

Q. 18. When do the Trade Association meet?—*A.* Quarterly—the Committee meet weekly.

Q. 19. Would they give us any representation?—*A.* I have no doubt they would if asked.

Q. 20. Do you think persons in business have time to attend to any thing of this sort?—*A.* I think some of them have time and would exert themselves, as they have done in attending to the business of the Association, which has occupied more time than the proposed Municipal duties would require.

Q. 21. The Committee wish to know the fact from the Trade Association, whether the people are willing and able to undertake and manage the Municipal affairs better than they are at present?—*A.* If you address a letter to the Master of the Trade Association you would get the information you require, I have no doubt.

Q. 22. What was the cause of the failure to the appointment of a Committee of inhabitants in 1833 as proposed by Mr. McFarlan?—*A.* It failed, because a Veto was reserved for the Magistrate of the division, and a final Veto for the Chief Magistrate, and nobody would act under such a system; besides it never was pursued to a conclusion, but allowed to die a natural death, such at least is my recollection of the plan.

No. 37.

1st May, 1837.

Dr. S. NICOLSON.

From what fell from Sir Edward Ryan at the Meeting of the Fever Hospital Committee yesterday I understood, that the Report of the Council of the Medical College, addressed to the General Committee of Public Instruction, and forwarded by the latter to Government, recommended “uniting the Fever Hospital” with the Medical College.

On perusing the Report however I find, that this union is not only not insisted upon, but on the contrary, the Council distinctly state “that some convenient site for the erection of the Hospital be chosen in the neighbourhood of the Medical College, which perhaps would be better than placing the establishment within the walls of the latter building; for many reasons it would be more desirable to keep the two institutions separate, so as to prevent effectually the patients and all strangers

No. 37.

Dr. S. Nicolson,
1st May, 1837.

from coming within the precincts of the College, a precaution exceedingly necessary. At the same time it would prevent the native population from confounding the Fever with the Police Hospital, of which the respectable portion entertain a great dread."

In this opinion of the Council I entirely concur, and as the Fever Hospital will be a distinct establishment, and not too near, though in the vicinity of the College, I do not apprehend that the Natives will hesitate to resort to it. But as I stated at the meeting, if the Fever Hospital were erected within the College grounds, I am satisfied the Natives would not go near it, from a belief that it was in some manner subservient to the College.

As I think it has been shown by the Report, that no Hospital now existing in Calcutta, nor indeed all the Calcutta Hospitals combined, would prove adequate, as a practical School of Medicine, it must be evident, that until a large *Native General Hospital* be established in the neighbourhood of the College, and into which all classes of disease, both acute and chronic, Medical as well as Surgical, are admissible, the important end for the attainment of which the Medical College was instituted, will remain in a great measure unaccomplished.

Moreover, without the practical knowledge and experience of disease, which can only be attained by patient study and observation at the bed-side in an Hospital, all the instruction which can be communicated to the most diligent and attentive student in a College, can never qualify him to practise his profession, either Medical or Surgical, with credit to himself, or safety to his patient.

The Hospital for the establishment of which this Committee have been for so many months endeavouring to procure subscriptions, could supply but a small part of the demands of the Medical College as a place of education; as its admissions would be confined solely to cases of *Fever*. But even under its original designation, I think it might form a most important addition to the *Native General Hospital*, which must sooner or later be erected in the neighbourhood of the College by Government, to enable that institution to accomplish the expectations of its founders.

With the view therefore of effecting this object, I would suggest that a recommendation be submitted by the Committee to Government, recommending that three ample and commodious buildings be erected (which might form three sides of a square) in the vicinity of the Medical College. One of these buildings might be appropriated to the *Fever Hospital*, one to cases of Surgical disease, and the other to Medical and Miscellaneous cases. The whole would then constitute one grand extensive *Native General Hospital*, furnishing ample opportunity for the study of every variety of disease.

Should the Government approve of this proposal, and undertake the building of the Hospital, such funds as the *Fever Hospital* Committee have realised would, of course, be placed at its disposal, as a compensation for the wing occupied by the fever cases.

To prevent the natives from apprehending that any connection existed between the Native General Hospital and the Medical College, as well as from various other considerations, it would in my opinion be advisable to place the Hospital under the general superintendence of a Medical man of some rank and standing in the Service, altogether unconnected with the College. The clinical and other Professors of the College might of course be appointed Assistants to the Hospital.

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—
Dr. S. Nicolson,
1st May, 1837.

I may take this opportunity of remarking, that the Officiating Secretary to the Medical Board will be relieved of that portion of his duties on the return of Mr. Hutchinson from the Cape of Good Hope, and if his services could be secured for the Native General Hospital, I know no man better qualified for the office than Dr. James Ranken.

S. NICOLSON,
Surgeon General Hospital.

Calcutta, April 28th, 1837.

No. 38.

April 29, 1837.

Dr. J. R. MARTIN.

The Committee having required from me some observations on the relative advantages to the Native Community of Hospitals and Dispensaries, I beg to submit the following :

1st. The order, regular Medical attendance and administration of Medicine; cleanliness and airiness; diet, clothing, &c. of an Hospital, are found by experience necessary to the successful treatment of acute disease, and to be superior to any afforded by other institutions of whatever kind.

2nd. It has been found in England and Ireland, that it is only the inexperienced of the Medical profession who can afford the labour and time requisite for the care of the out-door Dispensary patients especially; whereas, in all countries the Hospitals are personally attended by the ablest and most experienced Physicians and Surgeons, because there, the patients are concentrated: in short, an Hospital is indispensable to the efficiency of Medical and Surgical practice.

3d. The lower orders of society, whether here or in Europe, can have none of the requisites for the cure of acute disease except in an Hospital, because nowhere else can any funds afford them the professional ability or the careful attendance obtainable in every well regulated Hospital.

4th. By transfer to an Hospital the indigent sick are removed from the locality (and that generally a bad one) where their disease was contracted: this of itself goes far towards the cure of many diseases, such as periodic fevers.

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Dr. J. R. Martin,
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Dr. J. R. Martin,
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5th. The attendance on large bodies of sick in their own houses would be obviously impracticable, even were it desirable; on account of the great number of assistants required in the straggling city and suburbs of Calcutta, to administer treatment, and the cost of such establishment would be enormous.

6th. Dispensaries at the best afford but uncertain and partial relief, in acute disease especially; because the results of treatment cannot be accurately observed;—the patient gets his medicines by chance, and has such diet and clothing as the mistaken notions of friends suggest; or, if indigent, he absolutely wants both. Lastly, he returns to the place where he contracted his disease. Of some of the best conducted Dispensaries at home it has been said that the patients are “lost sight of; some remain on the books for years; no one knows how many are under treatment; according to the fancy of the reporter, those who cease to attend are said to be cured, uncured, or discharged for non-attendance.”

7th. In Calcutta, the very focus of the worst fevers, we have three great Dispensaries, while no hospital or other institution exists, for the treatment of natives suffering from fever and the other diseases incident to a bad climate.

In Ireland, so often cited, there are besides about 500 Dispensaries, 49 Hospitals and Infirmarys, and 70 Fever Hospitals.

These institutions are supported “partly by annual Parliamentary grants, partly by county presentments, and *some portion by private contributions.*”

8th. On the question of adding a fever ward to the Native Hospital, I would observe—1st, that such an union is not desirable on the score of health; 2nd, that it would be a departure from the essential (surgical) purposes for which the institution was founded; and 3rdly, that the only requisite to the complete efficiency of the Native Hospital as a surgical institution is, the removal from it of the medical cases that, spite of all we can do, now crowd it and, to a certain degree, contaminate the air.

9th. A Dispensary cannot be rendered a school of practical Medicine or Surgery for the instruction of Students. It is in a well ordered Hospital alone that a school of practice in either branch can be found; and unless such an institution be established here, it is certain that the objects for which the new Medical College was founded, must fail of being attained.

J. R. MARTIN.

Native Hospital, Calcutta. April 29, 1837.

No. 39.

DR. J. R. MARTIN.

1st May, 1837.

No. 39.

Dr. J. R. Martin,
1st May, 1837.

Having been called upon by the Committee of the Fever Hospital to give my opinion on the Report of the Council of the Medical College, I beg to state as follows.—

1st. That in the first letter, dated April 9th 1835, submitted by me to the Governors of the Native Hospital on the subject of establishing an Institution for the cure of the acute diseases of this city, I urged the expediency of making the said Institution one of easy access to the Students of the Medical College, on the plea, that “it is in an Hospital alone they can ever acquire the practical knowledge which can render them generally useful,” &c. To this, I need only add my present conviction of the absolute necessity of such an arrangement, towards the completion of the objects for which the Medical College was founded.

* Original letter submitting the proposition for a Fever Hospital and City Improvements, dated 9th April, 1835.

2d. That were I to point out the site I consider most eligible, on account of its elevation, aspect and exposure, convenience, and suitableness to native prejudices, access to water, &c., that site should be the river-bank; but if we are not in condition to choose in this matter, I would recommend the vicinity of the Medical College provided a sufficiency of ground for an Hospital, tanks, and shaded walks, be procurable.

3d. That the nature of the Police Hospital, as described in the report, renders it absolutely necessary, the new institution be altogether separate from it, so as the two may not by any possibility be mixed together, even in idea, by the natives, and lest the character of the new Hospital be thus disparaged or mistaken by them.

4th. That if I rightly understand the latter part of the report, it is proposed to furnish the medical aid of the new Hospital gratuitously. To this I would object. I think, at the same time, that every reason is in favor of the proposed institutions being placed under the management of the professors of the Medical College and no one, that I know of, against such an arrangement.

J. R. MARTIN.

Native Hospital, Calcutta, April 29, 1837.

No. 40.

Dr. D. Stewart,
1st May, 1837.

No. 40.

DR. D. STEWART.

1st May, 1837.

Reply on the question of the relative advantages of Dispensaries and Hospitals.

1st. I think that I have on a former occasion submitted an opinion on this subject, founded upon observation of the totally distinct though allied uses and objects of both Institutions. Dispensaries such as those of Calcutta provide merely for the *alleviation* of disease, very imperfectly for the *study* of disease, and not at all for the *treatment* of disease in the acute forms peculiar to the Climate—while Hospitals in addition to these important objects superadd the higher aim of preventing the *diffusion* of disease among the healthy: and are allowed to be the only schools where disease in all its *varieties* can be duly studied, and the habit acquired of correctly *observing and recording* its phenomena, and the *effects* of *remedies*.

2d. In the latter view and as an essential part of Medical education, nothing in my opinion can supersede the multiplied advantages of an Hospital, since there alone, as the term itself implies, can *Clinical* instruction be given with propriety. On the proposed site of the new Hospital, and the appointment of Medical Students as Clinical Clerks, Dressers and Apothecaries.

1st. The situation offers many advantages the principal of which is its proximity to the native part of the town, as well as to the College.

2d. The employment of the College youths in the departments named will give them an interest in their profession and a practical knowledge of it—not possible to obtain otherwise. These situations might be made objects of reward, and of competition among them, being held as in the Edinburgh Infirmary, only for six or twelve months at a time.

D. STEWART, *Assistant Surgeon.*

No. 41.

1st May, 1837.

No. 41.

Radhamadhuh Bon-
erjee,
1st May, 1837.

RADHAMADIUB BONERJEE, *examined.*

Q. 1. From your knowledge of the native feeling, prejudices, &c., do you think they would object to the junction of the College and Hospital—there being dissection in the College?—*A.* No. I think not; if walled round and separated there would be no objection; they ought not to be in the same compound.

Q. 2. Do you think the poorer classes would have any difficulty in substituting mud huts with tiles for the straw and mat huts now used?—*A.* No, it would be done by landlords.

Q. 3. Would it increase the expense?—*A.* Yes, but the lower classes would be willing to pay the difference.

Q. 4. Do you think they have any objection on the score of health?—*A.* No, they do not regard the heat, they make tiled houses whenever they can afford it.

Q. 5. Are not many of the lower classes themselves the owners of the houses?—*A.* Yes, but the landlords will advance. If not they can plaster the mats, which is done at a very small expense.

Q. 6. What is the difference of expense?—*A.* A straw hut will cost 12 Rupees, a tiled hut about 15. The best kind of straw (Ooloo) is nearly as dear as tiles.

No. 42.

Dr H. H. Goodeve,
May 8, 1837.

No. 42.

May 8, 1837.

Dr. H. H. GOODEVE, *examined.*

Q. 1. With reference to your proposal as to the union of the Fever Hospital with the Medical College the Government have referred Mr. Hare's letter to us to enquire whether the proposed Hospital can be established near the College, have you examined the ground and brought any plan?—*A.* Yes, I have examined the ground and brought a plan made by Captain Fitzgerald for buildings capable of accommodating 500 patients. There should be three buildings with six wards to each, for different classes of patients, viz. one for the superior class, another for the lower class, and the third for women. Each building to be 60 feet by 100, and each ward 60 by 35, all pukka and two stories—they will cost about 60,000 Rupees—they may be built for 50,000, with the materials of the present Police Hospital belonging to Government. I would make no enlargement on the sides, but build upon the top (*a rough plan delivered, which after inspection was returned with a request to send in a correct plan of the ground and estimate.*)

Q. 2. It has been suggested that the vicinity of the Medical College would be disliked by the natives, what is your opinion in that respect, and what means have you of overcoming native prejudices?—*A.* I have made great many inquiries and I do not think the natives will have any objection provided the Hospital is separated from the College by a wall, a sufficient dividing wall should be built to prevent access.

Q. 3. Will Captain Fitzgerald give a figured estimate, as your statement is too general and loose?—*A.* He is to give one to the Professors. As soon as he does so, I shall be able to send it; it will take some little time. The statement I have given above is merely from a rough calculation of his; (*the Secretary to the General Committee was desired to write to Captain Fitzgerald for an estimate.*)

Q. 4. Without a Hospital there will be no benefit to the College?—*A.* There can be no doubt that the College is comparatively useless without it.

Q. 5. What are the difficulties as to the Clinical instructions now?—*A.* The want of Clinical patients in the neighbourhood. The Hospitals are too far and would cause a neglect of other duties in the College.

Q. 6. What other difficulties are there?—*A.* I see none; if we had a Hospital in the neighbourhood, we are prepared to give Clinical instruction, as there is a Clinical Professor: (*Answer by Dr. O'Shaughnessy*) there might be a difficulty for a Professor lecturing in a Hospital to which he was not attached.

Q. 7. It is supposed that the patient would have no objection?—*A.* The lower orders would have none.

Q. 8. Is it only the lower orders that would come to the Hospital?—*A.* There are a great number of natives of higher caste, poor.

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Dr. H. H. Goodeve,
May 8, 1837.

Q. 9. The Police Hospital does not afford subjects for Clinical lectures?—*A.* No.

Q. 10. What are the number of patients in the Police Hospital?—*A.* Eighty to one hundred.

Q. 11. When do you think Captain Fitzgerald would be able to send the Estimate?—*A.* In about a week.

Q. 12. There is no question that the junction would be beneficial to the College?—*A.* No question whatever.

Q. 13. Have you made any Estimate of other expenses attendant on the Hospital, in setting it going?—*A.* Yes. It appears to me that it would not cost less than one thousand rupees per month for two hundred patients, calculating diet at two annas per day. I will send in a detailed Estimate for two hundred patients.

Q. 14. Do you include the salaries?—*A.* This will include the salary of the resident Surgeon, no other expenses I have reckoned. We have offered to give Clinical instruction, the Professors would give their services gratis.

Q. 15. Will you be so good as to put on paper the exact position of your plan as you have worked out in your Estimates, and send it to the Committee?—*A.* Yes, I will do so.

Q. 16. What is your opinion as to the utility of Dispensaries as compared with an Hospital? How are the poor to be relieved—in which way is the Medical relief to be afforded?—*A.* Generally I would say an Hospital is far more useful and desirable in this country than Dispensaries, because in the latter you lose sight of your patients. In Dispensaries you may give Medicine to 500 patients, but you do not know whether they take it or attend to the directions given to them as to food, time of taking Medicine, &c. &c. all of which is watched in an Hospital, and severe acute cases cannot be treated at all. In Calcutta, Dispensaries afford little relief except in Surgical cases. Dispensaries in England are very useful: (*Answer by Dr. O'Shaughnessy*) but have never superseded Hospitals.

Q. 17. Do you think Dispensaries more useful in Europe—in Ireland for instance?—*A.* Yes, a very different class of patients attends there: (*Dr. O.*) it would be impossible to attend severe acute cases from a Dispensary.

Q. 18. The two great questions are whether greater relief is afforded by Dispensaries or Hospitals and the advantage of Clinical lectures for the instruction to young Medical men. Your College is not for Calcutta alone but for India, will you put your's and Dr. O'Shaughnessy's opinions on paper?—*A.* Yes, we will do so.

No 43.

Ramcomul Sen,
May 8, 1837.

No. 43.

8th May, 1837.

RAMCOMUL SEN, *examined.*

Q. 1. The late fires in Calcutta have caused destruction of property to a considerable extent, and the Governor General has asked us to report upon the case. The Chief Magistrate seems to have some objection to compel the people by law to build huts with mud walls and tiled roofs instead of mat walls and straw roofs, what do you think is the difference of value between these two sorts of huts?—*A.* There are three different kinds of mud walled huts—the 1st, mud wall built from the foundation to the edge of the chopper, gradually sloping; this sort of wall cannot be erected in Calcutta, the soil is not suited for it. The 2d, *Chitta-berra*, made of Bamboo branches covered with mud. This is also objectionable here on account of the dampness of Calcutta being more than that of the Mofussil; 3d, Gurran sticks covered with cow dung and clay. This kind will answer the purpose better, last long and is not liable to fire. The difference of expense is comparatively small, the only difference is in the value of tiles. Formerly straw was very cheap, now it is very dear, and therefore the people in building huts use common straw called *Beechally*, which lasts only twelve months; one difference is in making the frame, which for a tiled hut requires to be made stronger and closer. These sticks may be used and the tiles preserved for 30 or 40 years, so, though dearer at the beginning, they are cheaper in the end, but the difficulty is in finding ready money for the expense of building.

Q. 2. What is the expense?—*A.* It must depend upon the sort of hut erected. There are choppers from twelve annas to five rupees and ten rupees. The money is required to be laid out all at once. The better sort of huts require time to be built, the tiles cannot always be had here—they are imported from Barrackpore, &c.

Q. 3. What do you suppose is the difference of cost between the tiled and straw huts of the same dimensions?—*A.* The difference in the cost of straw and tiles. The difference between strong substantial straw huts and tiled huts, I should estimate at 50 per cent, i. e., if the one cost ten rupees the other will cost fifteen. The mats and sticks are spoilt in twelve months.

Q. 4. What is the feeling of the natives as to the preference for the sake of convenience, health, cleanliness, &c. Have they any prejudice?—*A.* They would have tiled huts if they could afford it, there is no objection in regard to filthiness, people living in such huts care little for dirt. I think they all prefer tiled huts; people who live in those huts are out the greater part of the day and do not regard the heat. They have no prejudice or feeling save the difference of expense. Straw huts properly thatched are cooler and keep out rain, cold and dust better than tiled ones, but being more liable to fire.

Q. 5. Then you think the expense is the sole preference?—A. Certainly, I think the tiled huts are gradually increasing; formerly there were three-fourths of the huts in town straw built, now there are more than half tiled.

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Ramesul Sen,
Monday, May 8, 1837.

Q. 6. Do you know the proportions of the huts built by the landlords and the occupiers?—A. There are three classes; 1st, huts built by the proprietors of land; 2nd, land being rented by an individual he builds huts to be let; and 3d, the land being rented by the ryots at a small charge they build huts at their own expense; this class is the largest proportion, more than half. I would say two-thirds.

Q. 7. Then the expense of building in case of compulsory law would fall on the poorer classes?—A. Certainly it would fall upon the tenants, the poorer class and not upon the richer, and it would be considered a forcible measure.

Q. 8. Do you think the feelings of the natives would be opposed to such a law?—A. Not of those who could afford, they would build, the poorer part would leave Calcutta and go into the Suburbs, and elsewhere.

Q. 9. Would not the proprietors of land suffer a loss of rent then?—A. I think the loss would be temporary, they would return again and build in Calcutta when able to do it.

Q. 10. What do you think of the expediency of passing such a law?—A. I think it would be very hard upon poor people, who cannot afford the expenses, if such law is passed generally, but if partially, it will not be so, I mean where there may be pukka houses or a number of tiled houses, building of straw huts there may be prohibited.

Q. 11. Is not the evil complained of now, that pukka houses are destroyed by the neighbourhood of straw huts?—A. Yes, by the late fires more pukka houses are burnt than I have ever known before; I would not build a pukka house near such huts.

Q. 12. Would the poor go into the Suburbs because they could erect there huts cheaper, and would not that lead to the landlords building tiled houses?—A. Yes, they would go into the Suburbs because they could build at cheaper rates; if such law is established that proprietors may build tiled houses in the most populous part, such as the border of public roads, bazars, &c. and let to advantage; that in the Suburbs I do not think they would lay out money for building tiled houses, but only build straw huts, and it would only be removing the evil to the Suburbs.

Q. 13. We want to know whether the landlord would build tiled houses seeing the Ryots going out of his land?—A. I would not; if I have land, I would rather let it out to the ryots to build their own houses, than build upon it myself, as in case of proprietary buildings, the tenants have no interest in them and they frequently run away and the rent is lost.

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Monday, May 8, 1837.

Q. 14. State your opinion as to the expediency of such a law?—*A.* It would be expedient to introduce a partial law dividing the Town into districts, and appointing Committees with discretionary power to decide whether straw huts may be built at a certain place or not, and that no man should build a hut without the authority of the District Committee, but if a general law is introduced to prohibit the erection of straw huts it will be very hard. In places where there are no pukka buildings the effect of such a law would be very hard, such as in Bamunbustee, and the ryots would leave the place.

Q. 15. Then you think a partial regulation would be expedient under Committees?—*A.* Yes, where prohibition with regard to situation and circumstance is inexpedient.

Q. 16. How should these Committees exercise their discretion?—*A.* The Committees are to act under the authority of the Police.

Q. 17. Won't that be inconvenient, and what are the Committees to do?—*A.* The Committees should act under the authority of Government where there are a number of tiled huts or pukka buildings, they will authorize no straw huts to be built there, nor in a direction likely to communicate or extend fire, should it break out. The Committees being residents would know their own interests and act accordingly.

Q. 18. Then your opinion is against the general compulsory law, but you would vest the discretion of prohibiting to committees of inhabitants?—*A.* Yes.

Q. 19. Do you know the amount of property destroyed by the late fires?—*A.* It is impossible to ascertain it, but I should think it is over stated in the papers. I have observed the property being removed on the alarm of fire, upon several occasions.

Q. 20. What do you estimate the average loss to a family?—*A.* I think each family must have lost 20 to 30 Rs.; no, that is too much, I think 10 Rs. the most, exclusive of the value of the huts.

Q. 21. There is a proposition before the Committee of District Charitable Society to raise money by subscription to relieve the sufferers by fire, suppose the Committee raise a large sum, do you think that if that money was properly distributed a compulsory law might be enacted?—*A.* I do not think the subscription will amount to such a sum, that you can afford relief to all to enable them to erect tiled huts.

Q. 22. Suppose the subscription is raised to the amount of 30,000 rupees?—*A.* I do not think it will be raised to that extent, that will enable you to give relief to the people to build tiled huts throughout Calcutta and the adjacent places, and unless the whole is tiled, I mean rebuilding those destroyed by fire, and changing the remaining straw huts for tiles, the safety and security of the former will be nominal, and the danger is not removed.

Q. 23. Supposing that difficulty is overcome would you agree to a compulsory law?—A. By no means. I think a compulsory law ought not to be enacted under any circumstances, because straw huts and temporary houses composed of combustible materials, are often erected even by rich people, which cannot be prevented.

Q. 24. Would tiled houses add to the insalubrity of the place?—A. Considerably, unless they are made sufficiently apart, having space for ventilation of air, and the mud requisite for their houses is supplied, they excavate holes which remain full of stagnated water, and gradually filled up by filth.

Q. 25. Then you think that without proper sewerage and drainage it would cause unhealthiness?—A. Yes, unless the cutting of the hole is prevented. Besides tiled houses are built so close together, that in many places a free circulation of air is often prevented.

Q. 26. Then perhaps fires are necessary to keep the town healthy?—A. If I am not mistaken the dampness with which the air is impregnated is destroyed, and the unhealthiness is in some degree removed by fire. My medical friend sitting before me (Dr. Jackson) will be able to give an opinion better than I can offer.

Q. 27. In Captain Birch's plan he proposes to Government to compel the landlords to lay out their ground, do you see any objection to that?—A. That depends on the value of the ground, the proposition cannot be carried into effect in all the divisions of the town. The huts must be built to the occupier's convenience; but unless something of this kind is done the town can never be beautified. I would be content to leave this to the Committees of inhabitants.

Q. 28. In the Committee of the District Charitable Society the sum raised is contemplated to be distributed in loans amongst the sufferers under the management of Native Committees, do you think they will be able to protect against fraud, &c.?—A. I do not think it safe to lend the money; you may make donations at once; there are some obstacles; there are people who are able to build tiled houses, but do not because they often change their habitations, and some are not stationary there, living in hired land, will not pay its rent, and the huts will go to the payment of the ground rent, so the loan will be lost.

Q. 29. That would perhaps induce them to have a fire next year, what part do you think of huts burnt would be made of tile by the people themselves?—A. About one-tenth.

Q. 30. It is proposed by the Council of the Medical College that there should be an union between that institution and the proposed Fever Hospital, is there any objection to that?—A. The proposed Hospital is intended for Hindus and the superior class of natives, and the arrangement must therefore be different from the ordinary rules of a public Hospital, I think it is very objectionable. The natives will have prejudices, if it is joined to the College.

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Ramcomul Sen,
Monday, May 8, 1837.

Q. 31. Suppose the Fever Hospital is separated from the College by a wall?
—A. There would be an objection still, the impression, that it was the site of the Police Hospital, will not be removed for a long time, the horror of dissection is great, and no man will allow himself to be an object for the instruction of the pupils of the College; people will think it is not for the cure of the patients, but for the benefit of the pupils.

Q. 32. Then you think it would be inexpedient to unite the two Institutions?
—A. I think the Hospital ought not to be united with any establishment of the kind; it ought to be a distinct institution by itself. The natives would not like the body of students to come about them. People for whom it is intended would not like to go there. It is well known, that they would rather die in want of medical aid or lose the chance of recovery, than go to a public hospital where their feelings and prejudices are not attended.

Q. 33. Do you know that the natives like to be visited when sick by a crowd of visitors?
—A. They like their friends and relations to come, and one or two at a time.

Q. 34. How would you give scientific and practical knowledge to the students of the College?
—A. They have access to the Dispensaries, and the Police, Native and General Hospitals; and they may visit the proposed establishment two or three at a time, to learn the practice, and after they have finished their collegiate studies, they may be attached to any of these establishments for a fixed time, and have practical knowledge, &c.

Q. 35. Does not this objection apply to the present Native Hospital?
—A. The present Native Hospital has patients mostly belonging to the lower class of natives, they are servants of Europeans, and sent by the Police; they are helpless while in the Hospital, and are obliged to submit to one rule, I believe what is applicable to all, and therefore people do not go there so much as they would otherwise. If the practice and rules of the Native Hospital be fully introduced to the Fever Institution, I am afraid the object will fail; my ideas are always for moderation. I do not like to be defeated when I can help it. The natives do not yet know nor understand an *Hospital* well, and whatever is done regarding it ought to be done with caution consulting their feelings.

No. 44.

Monday, 8th May, 1837.

MUTTYLOLL SEAL, *examined.*

No. 44.

Muttylooll Seal,
Monday, May 8, 1837.

Q. 1. You have heard Ramcomul Sen's evidence, do you agree in his estimate respecting the difference of expense for building a tiled and a straw hut?—A. Yes, it is about fifty per cent.

Q. 2. What do you think of the propriety of passing a compulsory law?—A. I think such law would be very hard upon the poor.

Q. 3. What do you think of it, with the modification of vesting a discretionary authority in a Committee to determine who shall build, and where, and who not and where not?—A. This would answer. There ought to be a Committee with discretionary power to allow the building; they should not allow straw huts to be built where there are a number of tiled huts, and in such a situation as would convey the fire by south wind to other buildings, and no straw huts should be allowed to be built near pukka buildings.

Q. 4. Who would compose the Committee?—A. Men of intelligence and respectability.

Q. 5. Would you join Europeans in the Committee?—A. It is unnecessary—but there is no harm to join them.

Q. 6. Do you think a sufficient number of wealthy and intelligent natives in the different divisions would form themselves into a Committee and take interest in the matter?—A. Yes, they would.

Q. 7. Have you any thing more to say about the huts?—A. I will send my opinion in writing—in general I agree with Ramcomul Sen—where I differ I will state it.

Q. 8. What do you think of placing the Fever Hospital near the Medical College, the Police Hospital being removed?—A. There will be no objection to it.

Q. 9. You do not agree with Ramcomul Sen in that point?—A. No, not at all, where can you find a better place.

Q. 10. Would the sick natives object to a Doctor of the College seeing them with three or four of his Hindu pupils?—A. No, not in the least.

Q. 11. Then they would have no objection to the Doctor giving lectures at their bedside?—A. Not the least. Those who would go to the Hospital will have no objection on these points, and for this objection they would never leave the Hospital.

Q. 12. Do you think they would not prefer seeing their countrymen attending on them?—A. Certainly, they would be very glad.

No. 45.

Baboo Radakissen
Bysack,
Monday, May 8, 1837.

No. 45.

Monday, May 8, 1837.

BABOO RADAKISSEN BYSACK, *examined*.

Q. 1. You have heard the evidence of Ramcomul Sen and Muttyloll Seal, what is your opinion respecting a compulsory law for building tiled huts instead of straw ones?—*A.* I think a general compulsory law would be unjust.

Q. 2. What do you think of a partial law as proposed by Ramcomul Sen?—*A.* Under the modified plan I think it would answer, that is, not allowing straw huts to be built near pukka buildings or near a number of tiled huts.

Q. 3. Would you impose any other restriction?—*A.* No other but a discretion to the Committee.

Q. 4. What do you think as to placing the proposed Fever Hospital near the Medical College?—*A.* Those who object to going to the Hospital will always object, but the others will not care

Q. 5. Do not many natives object to taking European Medicine?—*A.* Yes.

No. 46.

Russomoy Dutt and
Dwarkanauth Tagore,
11th May, 1837.

No. 46.

11th May, 1837.

RUSSOMOY DUTT AND DWARKANAUTH TAGORE'S *Minute*.

1. It appears to us that it is absolutely necessary to adopt some measure to put a stop to the destruction of property and life by annual conflagrations. The late fires have destroyed considerable property and in many instances lives.

2. We think a legislative enactment either prohibiting, generally, the erection and existence of straw huts within the town, or vesting district committees of inhabitants with discretionary power to allow or refuse them at any place they may think proper, or imposing additional tax on straw huts, is the only remedy to remove the evil.

3. We do not think Captain Birch's proposition of laying out ground and building kutchha pukka dwellings would answer—such buildings can only be erected

at the expense of the landowners, but the capital required would be large, and there will be no adequate return by rent to meet the interest on the sum laid out.

No. 46,
—
Russumoy Dutt and
Dwarkanauth Tagore,
11th May, 1837.

4. We think huts walled with branch bamboos, covered with cowdung and clay, and roofed with tile, being less expensive and full proof against fire would answer better.

5. The expense of building such tiled huts will be about fifty per cent. higher than straw ones; but the former would be stronger and more durable, and therefore, though this additional expense would be incurred in the first instance, it may be cheaper, or the difference will not be great in the end, and moreover the burthen will not be much felt by the poorer class. The people who build upon their ground, and those who rent ground with a view of building huts thereon to be let to others for profit, would not feel much difficulty in raising the money. The proposed law would oblige the landlord generally to advance to the poor ryot, who rents a small piece of ground to build his own dwelling upon (as is the prevailing custom in most places) rather than allow him to quit, and the small increase of rent or interest will not be felt by the poor ryot.

6. The causes of fires we think are spontaneous ignition and carelessness—but certainly not incendiariſm..

7. We think no effectual relief could be afforded to the poor class by the Government, charitable societies, or individuals, to enable them to build tiled huts, without the compulsory law we have noticed, as those that will not receive pecuniary assistance would still be at liberty to build any sort of hut they like, and more especially those who build upon their own ground, and this with the existing straw huts will at once frustrate the object of the relief.

8. The natives prefer the tiled hut (though it is not so comfortable in all respects as the straw hut) because they consider it a more decent habitation—and they would therefore make such building as soon as they can afford to do so—so there is a feeling in its favour.

9. From our own observations and from statements of people living in tiled huts, we cannot discover that they are more unhealthy than the straw huts, nor do we think that tiled huts would in any way increase the filthiness of the town. They should of course be built at proper distances from each other, and in more regular form or square. The hole which will be necessary to be cut for the clay would be soon filled up by the sweepings (dust) of the town, at the disposal of the Overseers of the Conservancy department.

10. We have observed a considerable increase of tiled huts within the last few years.

11. With reference to the 2nd paragraph, we think the proprietors of existing straw huts should be entitled to remuneration.

RUSSOMOY DUTT.

DWARKANAUTHTAGORE.

11th May, 1837.

No. 47 A.

Letter of Trade
Association,
15th May, 1837.

No. 47 A.

15th May, 1837.

TRADE ASSOCIATION ON MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

To W. C. HURRY, Esq.

Secretary Municipal Committee.

SIR,

In accordance with the wish expressed in your letter of the 28th ultimo, that the Committee of the Trade Association should furnish your Committee with their suggestions, or a plan embracing the better regulation of the municipal affairs of Calcutta, I am authorised to state their unanimous opinion, that the present method of assessment and disbursement by Government of the municipal funds, cannot but be unsatisfactory to the assessed, so long as they have no voice in the election of the public officers who control the levying and the expenditure of those funds, especially intended for the comfort and the safety of the inhabitants and the salubrity of the City of Calcutta.

With a view to placing the Municipal affairs of Calcutta on a popular and satisfactory footing, the Committee of the Trade Association beg respectfully to

I.—That the Court of Quarter Sessions be called into active operation as a Court of Appeal, as well as for sanctioning the levying of the Assessment and the controlling of all Municipal affairs.

II.—That the Court consist of the Chief Magistrate as Chairman, and of all gentlemen holding His Majesty's Commission of the Peace as Members.

III.—That the Court of Requests be considered as a Municipal Court and its Commissioners elected by the householders annually—to be eligible for re-election.

IV.—That the Police of the City be entrusted to the Chief Magistrate, four Police Magistrates, and a Superintendent, as at present, but to be elected annually by the householders, and to be eligible for re-election.

V.—That the Conservancy of the City be entrusted to four Commissioners, to be similarly elected, with Magisterial powers and summary jurisdiction in all matters relating to Conservancy affairs—subject to appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

VI.—That the Assessment Funds, the Abkarrec, the Lottery Fund, the surplus Fines levied at the Police and Court of Requests, and any other local and municipal funds, be placed under the management of the Police and Conservancy Departments, through the medium of a Town Receiver or Treasurer, subject only to the control of His Majesty's Justices in Court of Quarter Session assembled.

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VII.—That a Charter of Incorporation be granted to the inhabitants of Calcutta, empowering them to elect their own Magistrates, Commissioners, Deputies and Assistants.

VIII.—That the City be divided into four divisions, subdivided into wards ; each division having an Alderman, (or Honorary Magistrate) a Police Magistrate, a Conservancy Commissioner, a Deputy Alderman and an Assistant Commissioner, with suitable establishments.

IX.—The Police Magistrates, the Conservancy Commissioners to be paid—the Aldermen, Deputies and Assistants to be honorary.

X.—The election of the Aldermen, Police Magistrates and Conservancy Commissioners, to be submitted for approval to the Governor General in Council, who should possess a veto ; which, if exercised, a new election should take place.

XI.—The above named officers to be elected by householders, paying a monthly rent of — Company's rupees, or upwards, or living in houses, their own property, of equal value.

XII.—That the Suburbs of Calcutta, from the lowest house in Garden Reach, to the highest house at Cossipore, two or three (or more) miles inland inclusive, be formed either into a separate Corporation—or be joined to Calcutta, by extending the boundaries. Garden Reach, Allipore, Entally and Cossipore, might each form a division, as in Calcutta, with Aldermen, Magistrates, Commissioners, and, if necessary, Deputies and Assistants as in the City. The Suburbs, to be subject, of course, to Assessment, which would cover the Conservancy and nightly watch ; but it would be necessary for the Government to grant allowances, to the Magistrates, if they were appointed and paid like the City Magistrates, but on lower salaries, say five hundred or six hundred per mensem.

If a plan founded on the above suggestions should be recommended by the Municipal Committee and approved by Government, the Committee of the Trade Association are prepared to enter more particularly into detail, as the subject has been frequently under their consideration ; but they are not desirous, at present, to obtrude further on the attention of the Municipal Committee, nor until they are called upon to do so.

The Committee of the Trade Association beg to express their conviction that no difficulty would be found in inducing inhabitants, of the middling class of society, for whom alone they speak, to exercise the liberties conferred on them of

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choosing their own Magistrates, Commissioners, &c. and of aspiring to such of the offices, whether honorary or paid, as they might be deemed eligible to fill.

I am requested to offer, personally, any further explanations of the sentiments of the Committee of the Trade Association, of which I am ex-officio Chairman, and to state that should evidence be further required, I can submit the names of persons qualified to afford the information desired.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. S. THOMSON,

Master, Calcutta Trade Association.

No. 47.

Mutty Loll Seal,
11th May, 1837.

No. 47.

11th May, 1837.

MUTTY LOLL SEAL.

The humble remarks and observations of Mutty Loll Seal on the subject of affording relief to the sufferers by the late disastrous and extensive fires in the various parts of the Town of Calcutta as well as on the mode of reconstructing their houses so as to prevent in a great measure (if total prevention be impracticable) the recurrence of similar calamities in future within the precincts of the Town of Calcutta.

1. It is highly inexpedient and dangerous that there should be thatched huts within the town, and that in order to obviate the frequent annual occurrence of conflagration, it is essentially indispensable that the habitations of the poorer portion of the inhabitants should be invariably constructed with less ignitable materials than they appear hitherto to have been built of, namely, with mud walls and tiled roofs, but as a sufficient quantity of earth cannot be available in Calcutta without considerable expense, labour and difficulty, I would beg to suggest that wattle and dab may be used, prepared with clay and cowdung and a little entire earth; but in cases where the latter article could be obtained in abundance the walls ought to be wholly erected of that substance; it strikes me that were the Committee to exert themselves in contriving vehicles of cheap conveyance, clay could be transported in large quantities from the Suburbs at a much comparatively diminished expense.

2. I think the construction of a house in the mode above suggested would cost fifty per cent. over and above the amount which would be expended in building a thatched one.

3. That proprietors of lands find it very inconvenient to take upon themselves the burthen of erecting tiled houses upon their tenanted grounds on the plan pointed out in the first paragraph, at their own cost, because the expense which must necessarily be incurred in the erection and repairing of such houses could not be reimbursed by the rents which they would yield, besides which the proprietors have another serious objection to the incurring of this additional expense, viz. the insecurity of rents which must thereby result from the tenants having no proprietary right in the materials of their habitations, which they may quit at any time without paying the arrears of rent due by them to their landlords, thus entailing on the latter an inevitable loss of many months rent, which the proprietors could not recover without subjecting themselves to further expenses and considerable trouble and vexation, whereas by the present system they are wholly exempted from all this, as they have now sufficient security in the huts which have been erected at the cost of the tenants. Independent of the above reasons many of the landholders do not possess the means for such outlay.

4. There are still in the various quarters of the town both thatched and tiled huts, and in some parts the proportion of the former is much greater than that of the latter. It is therefore highly desirable that the whole of these should have tiled roofs and wattle and dab walls as above.

5. That landowners ought on the re-construction of burnt huts to leave sufficient open space for the convenience of the passage of the tenantry, as well as for the purpose of preventing the accumulation of dirt in their habitations, which will not only tend to the more comfortable ingress and egress of the tenants, but be conducive to their health. It is expedient that the landowners should be restrained from demanding of their tenantry any pecuniary contribution for this necessary and humane accommodation of their tenants. The length and breadth of this open space may be determined by the Committee with due reference to local circumstances.

6. In my humble opinion it would be an act of justice and benevolence that the really poor and destitute tenants should be exempted from the obligation of re-building their habitations at their own cost, which their present unprecedented forlorn condition would not admit of; under such circumstances the requisite means ought to be supplied either by the Government, or from the Subscription Funds as it may be deemed most expedient and equitable by the Committee.

7. The solvent tenants ought not to be allowed to draw from the Subscription Funds the means of re-building their abodes, as they are fully able to bear the expense from their own resources. In order to be able to draw an accurate and just line of distinction between the really needy and destitute tenants and those who are not so, it is necessary that the Committee should empower the members in whose neighbourhood they may appear to have been domiciled to institute the necessary scrutiny on this head, and I am sure no imposition could then be practised successfully or remain undetected.

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Muttý Loll Seal,
11th May, 1837.

8. That a legislative enactment be passed preventing all parties, whether owners of land or tenants, from erecting huts of mats with thatched roofs within the limits of Calcutta, and that the Inspectors appointed by the Committee inform themselves as to the parties re-building being able to defray the expense between mats and thatched roofs, and wattle and dab and tiled roofs, assisting such as are not able from a fund, provided either by Government or private subscription, or both, that the same may be applied to all mat huts with thatched roofs notwithstanding, which ought to be altered in the mode recommended above as soon as possible.

9. I think the opinion that all tiled houses are more unhealthy than thatched ones is founded in gross error, and I am borne out in this allegation by positive facts, viz. that I have witnessed and still am witnessing hundreds of individuals living in tiled houses for years and years in the immediate vicinity of my residence, but I do not remember upon any occasion to have observed a greater degree of sickness prevailing amongst them than among the inmates of thatched houses.

10. I do not consider it expedient that pecuniary loans should be made to the needy and destitute sufferers either by Government or from the Subscription Funds, the reason of my discouraging such loans arises from a conviction that they could never at any time be recoverable from the parties, for people of this class generally maintain themselves and their families with great difficulty and privation and are often nevertheless involved in debt; under these circumstances I would beg leave to recommend that the pecuniary accommodations be *given* to them rather in the shape of donations than loans.—Lastly, I should wish to suggest that in every neighbourhood two of its respectable native inhabitants and an European gentleman be selected and appointed Inspectors for the purpose of carrying into operation the resolutions of the Committee, touching the future mode of constructing tiled houses in every part of the town.

MUTTY LOLL SEAL.

Calcutta, 10th May, 1837.

No. 48.

18th May, 1837.

No. 48.

C. K. ROBISON, Esq.
18th May, 1837.C. K. ROBISON, Esq. *examined.*

Q. 1. You are perhaps aware that this Committee is enquiring into the present mode of levying, collecting and appropriating the House and Abkaree Tax. In looking over the items of the Establishments of the Division Magistrates' Offices, there appears to be a difference in amount, in each Office, Mr. Blaquiere's and Mr. McMahon's are larger than the other two, can you state how that arises?—**A.** I do not know this to be the fact, but when the former Department system of the Police was changed into the present Division system, the native establishments were not interfered with as affected salaries, and on certain writers being allotted to each Division Magistrate, those with highest salaries may have gone to Mr. Blaquiere as Senior Magistrate. There was no intentional difference, but the salaries of old servants could not be altered. Vacancies have in some cases, as I learn, been since filled up with persons at lower salaries. The situation of the Interpreter of the 4th Division lately becoming vacant, a Mr. Crow was appointed by Mr. McMahon at rupees one hundred and fifty per month, the former salary was Company's Rupees two hundred and sixty-one and four annas.

Q. 2. What is your opinion as to the diminution of the number of Magistrates?—**A.** I have always said that Calcutta should be divided into three Divisions instead of four, I have given an opinion already to Government that three districts or wards would be sufficient, and that opinion is still unchanged.

Q. 3. Do you include a River Police in that?—**A.** I stated to the Police Committee in 1829 and I am still strongly impressed with the belief that it would be a great convenience to have a separate Magistrate for the shipping, with jurisdiction on both banks of the river—(separate jurisdictions would prevent the detection of plunderers,) and I think the River Magistrate should have extended summary power, have a separate office near the river, and he should be always in attendance there. I am of this opinion from a knowledge of the great loss sustained by owners and masters of ships, from any delay in the decision of their cases; leading to abandonment of prosecution, and consequent escape of the most determined offenders—all Lighters or Bhurs should be registered and numbered.

Q. 4. In your estimate of three Divisions do you include the River Police?—**A.** Yes, I committed my sentiments upon the Resolutions of Government, which embrace this subject in the shape of a Minute to the Chief Magistrate in December 1830, and in a letter to Mr. Secretary Mangles of 30th July 1836—(*the above papers delivered.*)

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11th May, 1837.

Q. 5. Do you think that three Divisions would be sufficient, including the River Police?—*A.* I am inclined to adhere to the opinion before given, that the River Police should be separate. I would have a fourth Magistrate, but I do not think that the whole expense of this establishment should be defrayed out of the House Tax, to which the shipping does not contribute in any fair proportion.

Q. 6. Do you think that the town may be divided into two Divisions under two Magistrates, the third being employed in the duties of the River Police?—*A.* I think the whole duties of the Land Police could not be performed by two Magistrates in case of sickness of one of them. With three, I think the absence of one occasionally would not interrupt duties.

Q. 7. Some of the Magistrates employ their time in other occupations?—*A.* This has been the system. The Magistrates should have sufficient salaries, without holding other offices, and be always at their posts—there are now five Magistrates and there were seven formerly.

Q. 8. But they are not there. Mr. Blaquiere, Mr. O'Hanlon and Mr. McMahon have other occupations, if you can dispense with the attendance of those, why cannot you reduce the number. If one Magistrate were to attend daily from 11 to 4 and another in case of emergency would not that be sufficient?—*A.* That has been the system. I can only say that not above half my time, while I am in the Police Office, is required for the business brought before me *according to the present system*, and I can always do the duty of other Magistrates when asked.

Q. 9. Why then will not fewer Magistrates suffice?—*A.* Because the River Police has in my opinion been always neglected, and a separate Magistrate ought to devote his whole time to it.

Q. 10. Then in the present mode of conducting business the number must be unnecessary, could you not with your present experience do the whole duty?—*A.* No, it is impossible—more than six hours daily cannot be given to labour in the office, and that would not get through the business. The writing alone is laborious, nobody else can do that for you. Depositions are written by the Magistrate, as well in the cases which he decides summarily, as in those he refers to the Criminal Sessions. The chief thing I am puzzled about is the River Police; when I was in the second Division there came more Land cases before me than before any other Division Magistrate, still that did not burthen me although the whole of the River cases, including Admiralty, also came before me, but I had no Superintendence of the River Police, and the cases were most unsatisfactorily disposed of. I endeavoured to get through it, but found it impossible to do it well, and for that reason I recommend the whole of the River Police being put under a separate Magistrate. The loss to trade from plundering is very great.

Q. 11. Would not two efficient Magistrates adequately remunerated be sufficient for the business of the town, three being now occasionally away?—*A.* It is difficult to give an answer to this. I do not know whether I should be required to confine myself to the present law or go beyond it; if confined to act according to

the present law, I should say two Magistrates would be sufficient for the town, with a third one for the River, but if our duties are increased according to the proposed law now framing by the Legislative Council, it is impossible to do the duties with the number mentioned.

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11th May, 1837.

Q. 12. We are only speaking of the things as they are?—A. But at present I am directed not to execute the powers given me by Acts of Parliament, and am expected to act in constant violation of the law; I trust that is not to continue; in truth, 11-12ths of what I now do is illegal. I never however join in legalising the assessment, as the disbursement is taken out of my hands, and I ought not to be responsible for the expenditure of others. In mentioning three districts I included the River Police, but that would require the whole time of an efficient Magistrate.

Q. 13. Then two for the town would be sufficient?—A. Two would accomplish it, but in case of sickness or absence of one of them, the other could not get through the business; I am leaving out the Chief Magistrate.

Q. 14. We are supposing that there should be no Chief Magistrate, and then if the Magistrates are relieved from the assessment collection and disbursement and that they have only to decide judicially on such cases as may come before them, could they not get through the business?—A. I should not be afraid to undertake one-half of it myself, but I know that this is contrary to the opinion of others, still I must admit that not above half of my own time is occupied at present, and that I could do double the work with greater satisfaction to myself.

Q. 15. Do you think that any part of the expenses of the Magistrate's Office could be materially reduced?—A. Not without public inconvenience, there are many papers to be made out and registered.

Q. 16. Mr. McFarlan has stated that they could be reduced (read Mr. McFarlan's evidence)?—A. I think nothing could be so mischievous as uniting the offices of interpreter and clerk, the interpreter has every thing in his power if venal; I should have no confidence in such an interpreter. The interpreter ought not to enter the place or know any thing about the causes before the trial commences. The clerk has to advise and assist parties from the beginning, and carry into execution all the orders of the Magistrate.

Q. 17. Then such a reduction as Mr. McFarlan proposes could not take place with propriety?—A. No, I would rather try to write every thing myself than trust it in such hands.

Q. 18. What occasion is there for three writers besides a clerk and interpreter, and what would you give the clerk?—A. I think less than one hundred rupees would not insure the integrity of the clerk. One hundred and fifty rupees is an inadequate remuneration to an interpreter; you could not get an efficient one for that sum. I could dispense with one Bengalee writer Goluck. If there were fewer divisions, there would be fewer people required.

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Q. 19. What do you think an adequate salary for an interpreter?—A. Not less than two hundred and fifty rupees per mensem.

Q. 20. That would increase your Office Establishment to rupees four hundred and ninety-eight?—A. Yes, at all events I could not reduce my present Establishment which I think is necessary.

Q. 21. Have you any opinion as to the native force under the Police as to its being too large or small ; it is stated by Mr. McFarlan to be one thousand nine hundred and sixty men?—A. I can form no opinion thereon, it does not come within my knowledge.

Q. 22. Have you any opinion, if the Conservancy Department were taken from the Chief Magistrate, how the duties could best be performed, either under the present law or with some new enactment?—A. If the public could be prevailed upon to lend their hearty co-operation and assistance, I think it could be done much cheaper than at present. Contracts would be preferable to high salaried executive Officers.

Q. 23. Has any plan occurred to you for doing this?—A. I am not prepared with any plan, but if it be wished, I will commit my sentiments to paper and send in a minute on the subject. It has never yet been left to the Magistrates to show how they could manage the assessment, I am prevented from interfering though I have the responsibility. It has been in the hands of the Chief Magistrate, in fact, in the hands of Government, and the funds pass through the Treasury. My mind leads to Municipal management.

Q. 24. You were in the Court of Requests, we believe, what number of cases did you decide there in a month?—A. The Commissioners have disposed of four thousand cases in a month.

Q. 25. Do you think it would be judicious to unite the Court of Requests to the Police. Mr. Gordon thinks that the union would be advantageous?—A. I think it would be an advantage to join the Court of Requests to the Police—much hardship is sustained from the want of this double power. In cases which the Magistrates think cognisable by the Court of Requests, the people applying to the Police are refused redress, without any possibility of explaining the reason, and they give up the hope of obtaining it elsewhere.

Q. 26. Can you give any general suggestion as to the improvement of the Police?—A. I have not thought of it very lately, my letter to Mr. Mangles contains my sentiments on many parts of the past and present system, and I can add to these if it be desired.

No. 49.

No. 49.

C. K. Robison, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

18th May, 1837.

From C. K. ROBISON, Esq.

To ROSS DONELLY MANGLES, Esq.

*Secretary to Government of Bengal,**Judicial Department.*

SIR,

I have lately procured copies of your letters to Mr. McFarlan, of 9th June, 1835, and of 24th May, 1836, together with Extracts (paragraphs 17 and 18) from the Police Report of the Chief Magistrate for 1835.

It would be most unpleasant to me, after a recent correspondence, to explain the delay which has taken place in offering my sentiments on certain portions of the letter of 9th June, 1835, and I therefore hope to be excused for proceeding at once to the points on which my sentiments are asked by Government.

For the sake of distinctness I shall repeat, on the margin, the several queries which I consider as referred to me, and offer such opinions on these as I have been able to form.

“How far the system established by the Resolutions of 12th October 1830, and which has had a trial of four years, has been found practically superior to that which it superseded?” It is out of my power to offer any satisfactory comparison between the two systems, for when I joined the Police Office in January 1827, I was specially directed by Government to confine myself to what was then called the Felony De-

partment, in which I had to investigate such crimes, offences, and misdemeanors, as were referred to me, for this purpose, from the Report Department, at the head of which was Mr. Blaquiere, or were preferred before myself in the first instance, by the complainants themselves, I had no interference with the machinery of the Police or the Reports of its Officers; the whole watch and ward of the City being under the exclusive controul of Mr. Blaquiere, and many important cases, investigated in the Police Office, came to my knowledge only through the public papers.

Such an order of things appeared to me, at that time, to be highly inexpedient, as it seemed impossible for one man, however great his talents and fitness for the task, to superintend efficiently a population so large and scattered as of this City; and this system, as it appeared to me, deprived the community of the efficient co-operation of four other Magistrates, who could have most advantageously shared the task with Mr. Blaquiere.

No. 49.

C. K. Robison, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

In October 1830, the Resolutions mentioned by you passed Council, and one of the most important provisions was doing away with the Report Department, and recommending a division of the City into districts or wards, with a Magistrate for each, who should receive all reports from the Thanadars, and dispose of every case within their respective wards. At the same time, a Military Officer was introduced into the system of Police, as Superintendent, and the Division Magistrates were relieved from all the duties of watch and ward, and directed to confine their attention to their judicial duties.

Notwithstanding this abrogation however, Captain Steel instituted a similar system of report every forenoon at his own house to the great retarding and detriment of business, and only such cases were afterwards brought by the Constables and Thanadars before the Division Magistrates as he directed. The same system has since been followed by Captain Birch, though in opposition to the opinions of the Magistrates, and the consequence has been that, in common with the other Division Magistrates, I am no better acquainted with the actual conduct of the Police Establishment than the four Magistrates in the Felony and Misdemeanor Departments were, when the whole was under the controul of Mr. Blaquiére.

I cannot however omit to mention that since 1830 great advantage has been derived from the extended sphere of Mr. McCann's employment; his talents, judgment, and activity merit every praise, and the conviction of my mind is, that had he been appointed Superintendent, that is, head inspector and instructor of the Constables, and the Thanadaree, instead of a Commissioned Officer, who has, in my opinion, overstepped the nature and intention of his appointment, great public advantage would have followed, and the exertions of the Division Magistrates would have been brought into the field, instead of being cramped from day to day, so as not to interfere with the Superintendent.

From what I have said it will be seen how incompetent I am to draw a correct comparison between the former and present systems, and how little I approve of either.

"Are crimes fewer, or less heinous?" } I can only speak as to the crimes which have been committed within the division which I have myself had charge of, and without any assurance that all these have been reported to me, or rather indeed, under the conviction that they have not. My opinion however, on the whole is, that there has been no diminution either of crime, or of the heinousness of its character.

"Are the perpetrators more frequently apprehended, and if apprehended, more frequently punished, either by sentence of the Magistrates, or the Supreme Court?" } I can only say in reply to this question that Mr. McCann's individual exertions, since 1830, have brought felons to condign punishment, who, in my opinion, would have formerly escaped when the system excluded him from the same active interference, by reason of an erroneous prejudice against the services of Europeans; and I can most truly say, that in all

cases previous to 1830, in which I considered myself most successful it was in consequence of taking Mr. McCann into my confidence, and making him a principal instrument in the investigation.

No. 49.

C. K. Robinson, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

"Is more, or less, of the crime" As both Captains Steel and Birch have
"committed brought to the official taken all their reports at their private
"knowledge of the Magistrates, or of houses, I cannot speak as to what is
"the Superintendent of Police?" } submitted to them; but I have reason to
know that many charges of crime are reported to the Superintendent, which are
not afterwards brought before the Magistrates of Divisions, even although parties
have been in custody under such charges; and that in consequence of such illegal
constraint, and false imprisonment, Thanadars and other Officers of the Police
have been afterwards complained against and punished.

"Are the benefits rendered to the } I do not know exactly what construc-
"community by the Police more or } tion to put upon the words "*necessarily*
"less alloyed by the abuse of the } *intrusted*" in this query. Since 1830, the
"power necessarily intrusted to its } Police has become more a *gens d'armes*
"Executive Officers?" } than a civil power, and I consider it, and
the native community have regarded all its proceedings as conducted by Govern-
ment, rather than as performed in conformity with the Law, or under the direction
of the Magistrates, consequently parties aggrieved have been both ignorant how,
and afraid to seek redress.

"Are Natives or Europeans found" It might be supposed that Europeans of
"the best qualified to be the effective the class from which Constables are select-
"and unobjectionable executive Agents ed, would be found both venal and in-
"of Police in the city; and if some of } corrigibly dissipated, but this has not
"the latter are indispensable, in what proved to be the case; and a much more
"proportion, under what limits, and respectable set of Constables has been
"under what restrictions ought they always procurable than I would, without
"to be employed?" } past experience, have expected. No in-
stances have come to my knowledge of any of the Constables receiving a bribe to
defeat the ends of justice, nor has more than one case occurred within my remem-
brance, in which any of them were tried for violent and oppressive conduct, and
in that case they were acquitted by a Jury. Whereas, many cases both of venality
and oppression have been brought home to the Native Officers of the Police.

My own experience would therefore lead me to employ Europeans more exten-
sively than they are at present, provided they be nominated and sworn in according
to Law, that they remain under the eye, the controul, and instruction of the
Magistrates of Divisions, who with their head Clerk, ought always to reside each
within his own respective ward; and thus not only have better opportunity of
becoming intimately acquainted with all that passes in it, but afford to complainants
the readiest access to redress. I am persuaded that the community would then be
encouraged to go heart and hand with the Magistrates in preserving the peace of
the city. At this moment, I believe the public feeling to be decidedly hostile to
the Officers of Police.

No. 49.
C. K. Robison, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

Having replied, as shortly as I could, to the several questions put in your letter of 9th June 1835, I shall add a few observations upon Mr. McFarlan's plan of providing a field of occupation for the lately appointed Native Magistrates, apart from the regular duty of the Stipendiary Magistrates, and upon his proposal to do away with the present separate Conservancy Department, and devolve the duties upon the Magistrates of each Division.

It cannot be expected that these Native Magistrates will engage in any Police business which will seriously interfere with their private pursuits, and it therefore seems to me impossible to assign to them a separate duty; they are, besides, so ignorant at present of the Law, and of what they may be called upon to perform if sitting alone, and dare not omit to do, that I would consider it both dangerous and cruel to subject them to the risk. Whereas, if they sat along with the Magistrate of their own Division, when their leisure permitted, or when some important investigation rendered it advisable to ask their attendance, their knowledge of the customs, feelings and rules of conduct of the natives, might render their co-operation of the greatest advantage.

I have always been of opinion that the whole Conservancy duties ought to be performed by the Magistrates, each in his own Division, whereby a saving of establishment would not only be effected, but greater economy introduced in the performance of the work required. Here also I conceive the suggestions of the Native, to the Division Magistrates, would be valuable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. K. ROBISON.

Police Office, 30th July, 1836.

No. 50.

No. 50.

C. K. Robison, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

18th May, 1837.

C. K. ROBISON, Esq.

Minute or Memorandum by C. K. Robison, Esq.—December, 1830, submitted to the Chief Magistrate.

By the "Resolution of Government" it seems to be their intention that the Chief Magistrate should, in communication with the other Magistrates, recommend a mode of dividing the duties of the town.

The former plan of dividing the Magistrates into Departments was condemned by the Police Committee, and is forbidden by these Resolutions. The only other method therefore, as it appears to me, is to divide the city into districts, and to give each of the Magistrates charge of a district; that is, to make it his duty to hear all complaints, and try all cases, within the district assigned him.

As the River Police, and cases occurring on the river or at sea have also to be provided for, it appears to me that if the town were divided into three districts, viz. the *South*, the *Middle*, (to include the River Police, and all Admiralty cases) and the *North*, all the objects of Government would be accomplished.

As Mr. Andrew resides in the South division, I would propose his doing the duties of it, and in the same manner that Mr. Blaquiere should do the duties of the North district.

As Mr. MacMahon and myself reside within the centre district, I would propose that we do the duties of that division jointly, he doing the land and I the River duties or business, alternately from the day of Jail delivery of each *Session term*, to that of the next one. By this arrangement the duty of all the Magistrates would be nearly balanced.

I would propose that Mr. Blaquiere and Mr. Andrew occupy the middle floor of the Office as at present, and that at ten o'clock of each day they meet in separate rooms, and hear complaints till twelve o'clock, when they should both meet in the centre hall, and there dispose of all judicial cases which require the presence of two Justices; that at two o'clock, or so soon as such business is over, they again return to their separate rooms, and proceed in the ministerial business of their respective wards.

That in like manner Mr. MacMahon and myself occupy the lower floor of the house, each having our separate room, and meeting together in the centre hall from twelve to two o'clock.

No. 50.

C. K. Robinson, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

The exact time of two Magistrates sitting together would be regulated by the actual business before them, but generally speaking the above periods would be found to answer every purpose.

That the whole of the third story should be left for the Chief Magistrate, and for a *Committee room*.

I would appoint four of the Constables to the South District, one to be Head Constable, and the same number to the North Division. To the Centre Division I would give three Constables only, and all the Town Sergeants. In this way one Constable would be saved, and his salary would be divisible among the two proposed Head Constables of the South and North Districts.

I would make the South Division include all Chowringhee, Cullingah, Jaun Bazar, &c., and to extend from Birjtolao to Durrumtollah, including the South side of it, and also include the Fort, Esplanade and Cooly Bazar.

The Centre Division to extend from Durrumtollah including the North side of it, to Colootollah Street.

The North District would thus include the North side of Colootollah Street and extend to Chitpore Bridge.

Each District would include the Boundary Guard of its own extent of face along the Circular Road and River.

It would be necessary to prevent the duty of Thanahs from including a portion of two Districts. This could probably be easily arranged, by suppressing a couple of Thanahs along the two Streets of Durrumtollah and Colootollah, and giving a few of the men to any Thanah which might thus have an additional space to watch.

The Magistrate in each District would thus only have to do with, or have before him the Head Constable within it, who again would take his general instructions from Captain Steel, and see that the other Constables as well as Thanadars, Naibs and Chokidars did their duty.

By this arrangement a great many Christian and Native Writers, not only in the present Report but other departments, would be unnecessary.

I would propose that the District duties allotted to each Magistrate, and the place of his sitting in the Police Office, should be intimated to the public.

Fair Copy delivered to Mr. McFarlan ;

C. K. R.

27th December, 1830.

17th February, 1835. *

Up to this day no notice has been taken by Mr. McFarlan of the foregoing minute ; nor were the Magistrates ever convened by him, or ever met to consider of a proper mode of carrying on the duties of the Police Office, which was the reason of my writing the minute.

No. 51.

18th May, 1837.

No. 51.

A St L. McMahon, Esq.
18th May, 1837.

A. St. L. McMAHON, Esq., *Examined.*

Q. 1. You are Comptroller and Examiner of Lottery drawings we believe?—

A. I am a Sub-Commissioner, but the time given to the duties of that appointment is principally out of office hours. The drawings, which are 16 in the year, occupy about an hour and a half of each day, and take place in the morning an hour before office hours, and sometimes earlier.

Q. 2. The expenses of your office exceed those of all other Divisions?—

A. That is accounted for by the Interpreter, Mr. Aviet, receiving a larger salary than any of the other Interpreters, viz. Rs. 261-4 per mensem, and although attached to my office, was a general Interpreter, and attended the other Magistrates when they required his services either in Persian or Armenian. I have now lost him, and have got in his place a Mr. Crow, on a salary of 150 Rupees a month.

Q. 3. Is Mr. Crow an efficient Interpreter?—A. I do not think him very efficient at present, but he may be so with a little experience.

Q. 4. Does he know Persian?—A. A little, I understand.

Q. 5. But you think he would eventually be a good Interpreter?—A. Previous to my appointing him, he was examined by Mr. Blaquiere, who was of opinion that he would make a good Interpreter with a little practice.

Q. 6. Is he of good connection?—A. I believe he is. He came strongly recommended, and produced testimonials of good character, &c. from Mr. C. Webb Smith, and the Heads of Departments under whom he had served.

Q. 7. Had you many applications when the office became vacant?—A. Not many.

Q. 8. You have four writers, are they all necessary?—A. I think I could manage with one less.

Q. 9. Are four Peons necessary?—A. I think so, two attend me at office and two at my own house and remain at night, formerly inconvenience was felt for the want of them, and I have frequently been obliged to employ my own servants on Police business.

Q. 10. Do you think three Magistrates would be sufficient to conduct the whole business of the Town and River, if their time were to be devoted entirely to those duties?—A. I hardly think they would. Business varies very much, at times there is not much to do, but at other times the Magistrates are inundated with cases—a good deal of time is taken up in reading and disposing of petitions. I speak of my own Division.

No. 51.

A St.L.McMahon, Esq.,
18th May, 1837.

Q. 11. How many cases do you decide daily upon an average?—A. I cannot exactly state, but I have furnished the Committee with a statement of the number of cases disposed of in the year.

Q. 12. Your return gives an average of five cases per day for the 225 working days in the year?—A. I should think there must be more. Many of the cases that come up one day and are partially heard, are postponed for the parties to subpoena their witnesses, in the meantime the parties make up matters and do not again appear. These are all put down as dismissed—parties not being in attendance, but still they take up time in the first hearing.

Q. 13. You think four Magistrates necessary?—A. Yes, I do. In this country you must calculate on occasional absence from sickness, &c., and I think the business could not be well got through with a fewer number.

Q. 14. Will you give us your opinion how the duties of the Conservancy Department may be best performed either under the present Law or with some new enactment?—A. I am of opinion that it would require the attention of two Magistrates to transact the duties of the Conservancy Department. I would also place under their controul the collection of the House tax, &c. I think there would be a considerable saving if much of the work (at present done by individuals in the Conservancy Department) was performed by contract.

No. 52.

Mr R S. Thomson,
22d May, 1837.

No. 52.

22d May, 1837.

MR. R. S. THOMSON, *examined.*

Q. 1. In your letter of the 10th instant, you offer to furnish us with further explanation of the sentiments of the Committee of Trade Association and names of persons qualified to give evidence as to the better regulation of the Municipal affairs of Calcutta. Who are the persons willing to be examined and what are the sentiments of your Committee upon the subject? and what is the Municipal government you require, we want the details?—A. When I wrote the letter, the details were in a crude shape and in their present form the Committee of Trade Association are not prepared to submit them to your Committee. All the members of the Trade Association will assist if they are assured that the suggestions offered in my letter will be adopted. The groundwork is popular election of Magistrates. Nothing short of this will satisfy the inhabitants or incite them to take any interest in Municipal affairs.

Q. 2. In your letter you suggest that the Police Magistrates and Conservancy Commissioners should be distinct, and paid persons, and are to be elected by the tax payers, we want details of all these, for instance, what would be the rate of

payment for the privilege of voting which you have left blank?—*A.* The qualification for voting was left blank because we have not been able to agree on that point amongst ourselves in Committee, and it is one which requires consideration as well as investigation.

No. 52.

Mr. R. S. Thomson,
22d May, 1837.

Q. 3. We cannot recommend any measure to Government until we are satisfied upon all these particulars, nor would the Government come to any determination until those particulars are laid before them. Who are to be the electors?—*A.* I should say a person paying house rent of 16 or 20 rupees per month should be capable of voting. I could submit no specific proposition on the subject at present, but the minimum qualification for voting would be regulated by circumstances which can be better explained in detail.

Q. 4. There is the difficulty. Mr. Smith said the same thing—we have no data to go upon—we understood Mr. Hammerton has prepared some plan?—The subject has been frequently before the Trade Association, and although there seemed to be difficulties in the way it has not been lost sight of.

Q. 5. We wish to know what class of people are to be the voters, who are to be the common counsellors, &c. we are asking from you a plan of all these?—*A.* I shall be very happy to give a plan if time is allowed me for this purpose.

Q. 6. In the eighth proposition you say that the City should be divided into divisions and wards, each division to have an Alderman, Police Magistrate, &c. The first question would be what are to be the salaries of the paid functionaries, what establishment, what other expenses, we want to see all these in figures?—*A.* The Committee of the Trade Association did not think it necessary to go into all these particulars until they knew that their suggestions would be adopted, or such portion of them as met with the sanction and approval of Government.

Q. 7. If we do not see a proper plan laid before us, we cannot recommend the measure to Government, as we cannot go to them without a plan in detail. If you will not make an attempt, we apprehend the things must stand still as they are. The members of the Trade Association are almost all employed advantageously, their time is precious, will any of them devote their time to Municipal affairs?—*A.* I have no doubt they would. In all cities in Europe the inhabitants take a lively interest in Municipal affairs, and I would instance Edinburgh, where the Commissioners of Police are chosen from amongst the merchants, and who generally consider it a duty to devote a portion of their time for the good of the city.

Q. 8. The Government is desirous to place the Municipal affairs of the city in the hands of the inhabitants, but they will not do so until assured that it would work better by the change, and would wish to see calculations in detail before they come to any determination upon the matter?—*A.* I will propose to the Committee of the Trade Association to make calculations in detail and forward them without delay to your Committee.

No. 52.
 Mr. R. S. Thomson,
 22d May, 1837.

Q. 9. We want to see some specific proposition to enable us to come to a resolution whether to recommend it to Government or not?—A. Allow me to call the Committee and prepare a plan.

Q. 10. Will you be able to give us your plans and names of parties willing to assist soon?—A. It will take some little time (say a fortnight) to prepare the plan.

Q. 11. You will bear in mind that the voters must not be one class of people only. What would be the result of such popular election. The electors must be those paying the taxes?—A. I would give the vote to the occupier or tenant, there are many objections to its being exclusively confined to the landlord in this country.

No. 53.
 Lt. W. Abercrombie,
 22d May, 1837.

No. 53.

22d May, 1837.

LT. W. ABERCROMBIE, *examined.*

Q. 1. We believe you are the Superintendent of Roads, and Mr. Sevestre, the Executive Officer, acts under you?—A. Yes, Mr. Sevestre acts wholly under my superintendence. I cannot authorize the expenditure of money beyond twenty-five rupees without the sanction of the Chief Magistrate.

Q. 2. What are Mr. Sevestre's duties?—A. His duties are, building, repairing drains, and laying the materials on the road, under my superintendence.

Q. 3. Does he contract for these works?—A. No, the materials for the repairs of the road are supplied by contract by another man. He makes out his bills in conformity to estimates previously furnished for building drains, &c.

Q. 4. What is the name of the contractor of materials?—A. Radanath Mitter and Co.

Q. 5. And for the buildings, drains, &c. Mr. Sevestre supplies his own materials and workmen, and charges in conformity to the estimate previously furnished?—A. Yes, he works the same as any Executive Engineer, Captain Fitzgerald for instance, at estimated rates, &c. He works cheaper than any one else in Calcutta.

Q. 6. Does he make any profit by his work?—A. He is not supposed to make any profit by the work (on reading an extract of his former evidence, said) I believe he gets dusty. It would be no saving in this country to abolish dusty, because if the head of the department does not take it, his subordinates do. The Executive Officer acknowledges the receipt of dusty, the Committee can

obtain from the Chief Magistrate a correspondence on the subject of his being required to take the oath formerly administered to Executive Engineers.

No. 53.

Lt. W. Abercrombie,
22d May, 1837.

Q. 7. How are Mr. Sevestre's works checked and paid for?—A. I see the work before I pass his bills. There is no check except my superintendence.

Q. 8. Does Mr. Sevestre get a salary as Executive Officer?—A. Yes, of sicca rupees three hundred per month.

Q. 9. Could not the work be performed by contract on more favorable terms?—A. Contract would not be a saving, it would be more expensive. Mr. Sevestre works twenty-five per cent lower than the European builders would do it for. Mr. McFarlan sent his estimates to Burn and Co. or some other builders in Calcutta, who refused to undertake the work at 25 per cent advance.

Q. 10. Does Mr. Sevestre certify the expenditure as the Executive Officers of Government do?—A. He has refused to do so (vide Chief Magistrate's correspondence with Government and the Civil Auditor.)

Q. 11. Could you not undertake the duty yourself which would preclude the necessity of keeping up the expense of the establishment of the Executive Officer?—A. I of course consider myself capable of performing the duties of an Executive Engineer. I should however object to undertake them in Calcutta as Superintendent and Executive, unless I obtained full authority over my subordinates, who should receive orders from none but me; all orders from superior authority being conveyed through me.

Q. 12. Do you order what is to be done?—A. The origin nominally rests with the Chief Magistrate, I have suggested many works, &c. in Calcutta since my appointment. Every thing that has been done has received the sanction of the Chief Magistrate. The Executive Officer obeys my orders.

Q. 13. Do you think the Fire-Engine Establishment ought to be kept up?—A. Certainly, I think the Engine Establishment do their work particularly well as far as they go, but they are too few in number and have too few Engines, those they have are generally too large and very old.

Q. 14. Are the Engines kept up in good order?—A. Yes, they have no sucking hoses, the delivering hoses are kept pretty well, the apparatus require thorough repair.

Q. 15. Have you seen the operations of these Engines?—A. Yes, I have seen them frequently at work. I have stopt several fires with them, no Engine upon earth could stop the fires amongst straw huts aided by strong wind, until some assisting check applied, such as a tank, Pucca houses, or an open space. Aided by these checks, I have seen fires stopped by the engines, which had it not been for the engines would have overcome the obstacles and destroyed more property.

No 53.

Lt. W. Abercrombie,
23d May, 1887.

I once saw a very great quantity of valuable property preserved by the engines in a wood bazar.

Q. 16. What becomes of the sweepings of the Town?—A. The sweepings of the Town are generally used to fill up tanks, and carried away in the conservancy carts under the direction of the overseers.

Q. 17. Do they make any money by it?—A. They acknowledge that they make a little. I have no sufficient authority over the overseers and only hear casually where the sweepings are carried, unless I have given a particular order for them to be taken to some particular place. I am always liable to be told by the overseers that some Magistrate acting in the Conservancy department, has ordered them to such and such a place. The overseers usually fill places to which they can carry them, themselves, I do not believe they in general make much money by them. I once proposed compensation to be given to the overseers and the sweepings to be sold. I however had reason to doubt the efficacy of my own scheme. However, I would try it if I had my own way.

Q. 18. Are the Sircars and Peons in the Conservancy department to report nuisances necessary; cannot their duties be performed by the Thanadaree establishment?—A. They are not necessary. They are a greater nuisance themselves than the nuisances they report; their duties however, could not be performed by the Thanadaree establishment. I am making out a plan to reduce the number of the Sircars and raise their pay to thirty rupees.

Q. 19. Do not the Police assist the Conservancy?—A. No, not at present.

Q. 20. Would it not be convenient to unite the duties of the two departments?—A. I would unite in some instances.

Q. 21. There are twenty-four Khallasies charged for, under the four division overseers, for keeping the roads and drains clean. Are they necessary?—A. They are necessary; every officer who has experience in the employment of large bodies of native labourers will bear me out in saying, that a very large subordinate superintendence is required over them, they wont work without it, and if they wont do that, they must have superintendence, whether the superintendents do their duty or not.

Q. 22. Do they attend to their duty?—A. They do as far as I am able to judge.

Q. 23. There are twelve Chowkedars charged under the head of executive department as employed in preventing nuisances in the Esplanade, cannot their duty be transferred to the Thanadaree establishment?—A. They are the Police, they report both to me and to Captain Birch; they are the Esplanade Police.

Q. 24. Have you any suggestions to offer generally on the establishment of the executive department. Could any reduction be made therein?—A. I have

sent in a report to Government on the establishment, recommending a permanent establishment instead of a hired one as at present, which if sanctioned will effect a considerable saving. My report is with the Military Board. I propose to improve the condition of the labourers, while I reduce them more under my controul. They are not under any controul at present; their allowance for one day may be cut, if more be attempted they will of course refuse to work, and on the other hand, if a lazy fellow be refused, the contractor immediately says that he cannot employ workmen if those he brings are rejected.

No 53.

Lt. W. Abercrombie
22d May, 1837.

Q. 25. The twelve Chowkeedars in the Esplanade, where are they stationed and under whom do they act?—A. They have a Thanna in Monohur Doss' Tank; they act under Mr. Statham, Esplanade overseer, and patrol the plain day and night.

No. 54.

22d May, 1837.

Dr. W. GRAHAM.

No. 54.

Dr. W. Graham,
22d May, 1837.

To WILLIAM C. HURRY, Esq.

Secretary Municipal Committee.

Sir,

After an attentive perusal of the accompanying letter addressed by the Secretary of the Medical College to Government, on the subject of a new Medical Hospital to be established in the Native Town, I am decidedly of opinion, from a long and intimate acquaintance with every corner thereof, that the locality of, or near to the Medical College, is by no means the place which ought to be selected.

If the welfare of the native population is the paramount object in contemplation, and I deprecate any other, the site of the institution should, and must be in the very heart of the town, and not at the southern extremity which the present plan proposes; and should such an establishment be eventually organized, I with great deference suggest the neighbourhood of Simlya, as being the most unexceptionable place, having a dense native population on every side.

If I may however venture to offer an opinion as to what I would deem the most humane and most beneficial assistance, which the Committee of Municipal Enquiry could render to this numerous class of fellow creatures, it would be the establishment of a Dispensary adjoining every Thannah within the limits of the city, with a comfortable receiving hut, containing a certain number of charpoys. Each establishment, to consist of two Native Doctors (Mussulman and Hindoo,) hereafter to be supplied from the Medical College: a cook and water carrier of

No. 54.

Dr. W. Graham,
22d May, 1837.

each religion, with a constant supply of the requisite medicines and comforts, such as sago, arrow root, brandy, wine, &c. In times of great sickness, many would enter such an asylum as I have mentioned, in their own vicinity, and near to their friends, who would rather die than be removed to a distant hospital. The Thanadars would hear twice a day at the least, the state of sickness within their superintendence; those individuals who were able to walk to the Dispensary would be relieved, while others incapable of doing so from sudden and severe infliction of disease, such as cholera, could be seen and treated without any delay. The Dispensaries could be visited once or twice a day by Medical Practitioners at the Presidency, who doubtless would, under all circumstances considered, perform the duty with the same active benevolence as is exhibited by our brethren in Great Britain, who discharge it gratuitously.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient and faithful Servant,

WILLIAM GRAHAM, M. D.

Calcutta, May 11, 1837.

No. 55.

Dr. W. Raleigh,
22d May, 1837.

No. 55.

22d May, 1837.

DR. W. RALEIGH.

To WM. COBB HURRY, Esq.

Secretary to the Committee Municipal Enquiry,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, with the accompanying recommendation of the Council of the Medical College for the establishment of an Hospital in the vicinity of the Medical School, as necessary to the Clinical instruction of the pupils of that establishment: How far existing institutions (the General, Native and Police Hospitals,) supply the required means for professional tuition, I am unprepared to say: but I fully concur in opinion with the Committee of Management of the Medical College, as to the convenience which would be afforded to the medical pupils, in the prosecution of their practical, medical and surgical studies, by the establishment of a General Hospital, in immediate connection with the College.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

WALTER RALEIGH,

1st Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital.

11th May, 1837.

No. 56.

May, 1837.

DR. W. RALEIGH.

TO CAPTAIN R. H. COCKERELL, R. N.

MY DEAR COCKERELL,

With reference to our late conversation on the subject, and in compliance with your desire, I forward you my opinion on the "comparative advantages likely to attend a Fever Hospital, or an increased number of Dispensaries in Calcutta;" and my suggestion for a Dispensary Establishment, calculated in my idea, to afford efficient and extensive benefit to the indigent native community, at a moderate expense.

In so doing I beg to remark, that as I have not seen any communications connected with the subject,* my observations are uninfluenced by any thing that may have been submitted to the Municipal Committee; and have probably been anticipated.

Hospital.—The advantages of an Hospital over a Dispensary may be briefly stated to be—the more satisfactory, and more certain opportunity of prosecuting medical treatment of the sick, and of ensuring those most important supports to the exertions of the medical practitioners; regulation of diet, cleanliness, and domestic attendance.

The objections to an Hospital are—the very limited benefit which could possibly be afforded by one hospital of moderate dimensions; the heavy expense necessarily attending the maintenance of such an institution; and the prejudices of the natives against going to an hospital for *Medical treatment*; for notwithstanding what may be urged to the contrary, daily experience convinces me, that however willing the natives are to resort to an hospital for surgical aid, which is usually beyond the province of the Native Doctors: they would be most reluctant to enter an hospital in case of fever or other medical diseases, which from their more obscure character, carry with them less intimidation, and are professedly manageable by the country practitioners of physic, besides which, the circumstance of being surrounded by their families, and having their wants supplied in their own accustomed manner, would ever induce the native, however poor, to prefer his own hut to an hospital, where certain restrictions are indispensable to good order.

Dispensaries.—The advantage of a Dispensary is, that at a comparatively trifling expenditure, a much greater number of sick may be relieved, than could be at an hospital of limited accommodation.

* The only paper I have seen, was a question as to the advantage of erecting an Hospital in connection with the Medical College, as a place of Clinical instruction to the pupils.

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Dr. W. Raleigh,
22d May, 1837.

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The objections are—that by the *present manner of conducting Dispensary practice*, the aid afforded must necessarily be deficient in severe cases of sickness, and no command can be exercised over the patients in securing them from exposure or irregularities.

I cannot however but think, that a Dispensary establishment could be conducted on principles, calculated to afford extensive and efficient relief, and that too, in a way more consonant to the feelings and habits of the natives, than an hospital could be, and with much greater economy. This object appears to me easily obtainable, by extending the present Dispensary system, and in addition to the mere distribution of medicine at the depots, to those who are ~~unable~~ to walk thither for it, causing the more seriously sick to be visited at their own residence. To effect such measures, it would be necessary to establish a sort of Medical Police, and it occurs to me, that such an arrangement as the following would be found to answer the desired object.

1st. Divide the city into a certain number of districts: and at each district fix a Dispensary, with the following Establishment:

(1) One Apothecary	at 50 Rs a month.
(5) Five Native Doctors, 10 each,	50 „ „
1 Bheestie, 1 Mater, 2 Coolies,	16 „ „
House Rent	20 „ „
Total.....	136

The whole Establishment to be resident at or near the Dispensary, and available day and night to calls of immediate importance.

2d. During a certain number of hours of the day, say from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M., the Dispensaries should be open for general distribution of Medicine, to those enabled to attend there; at which time, the Apothecary and all, or as many of the Native Assistants as may be required, should be present to afford aid to applicants.

3d. During the morning and afternoon, before and after the hours specified for attendance at the Dispensary, (allowing time for meals, &c.), the Native Doctors should be occupied in visiting the seriously sick at their own houses, (within their particular district:) all such cases should be reported to the Apothecary, who in instances of emergency or danger, should himself visit the patient, and direct the Native Doctor in the treatment.

The controul and regulation of the Establishment should be vested in a certain number of Medical men, resident in Calcutta, forming a Committee, whose duty it should be to visit at regular periods, and superintend the line of Dispensaries.

Believe me, your's very truly,

May 15th, 1837.

WALTER RALEIGH.

P. S. Well instructed Native Doctors would be quite competent to the duty I have proposed for them, and would afford every satisfaction to the poorer classes of natives, even the higher orders, particularly the females, commonly employ them, excepting in extreme sickness.

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DRS. O'SHAUGHNESSY AND GOODEVE.

No. 57.

Drs. O'Shaughnessy
and Goodeve,
22d May, 1837.

Minute on the Establishment of Hospitals and Dispensaries in Calcutta.

In compliance with the request of the Municipal Committee, I beg leave to submit to their consideration the following memoranda relative to some of the arrangements proposed for the relief of the native sick in Calcutta, having been requested further to consider particularly the applicability of the Dispensary system to this object, I proceed in the first place to offer a few memoranda on that subject.

I wish at the commencement to offer a few remarks on various Dispensary systems which I have observed, having done this, we can more easily compare their advantages or disadvantages with those of other proposed establishments.

Dispensaries are of three kinds,—1st, those in which medical relief is afforded only to persons who themselves came to the dispensary—2nd, those in which the sick are visited in their own houses by the Medical officers of the establishment—3rd, those which in addition to the two previous systems have a few beds provided for the reception and treatment of patients.

The *first* of these kinds, that at this moment in existence in Park-Street and Guranhatta, is obviously only applicable to the treatment of persons laboring under such diseases or accidents as permit them to incur the fatigue of frequent visits, and is clearly useless as a mode of relief for cases of fever, dysentery, cholera, acute visceral inflammations, for fractures or dislocations of the lower extremities, and a host of similar surgical cases.

These Dispensaries consequently make no provision for the most urgent common maladies. They give much relief, it is true, in all the details of the surgery of minor accidents, in the treatment of syphilitic and cutaneous diseases and of some chronic affections.

Besides their inapplicability to the management of acute disease these institutions are moreover and as a necessary consequence, of proportionate inutility as sources of instruction.

Their expense is moreover great, as the subjoined estimate of the cost of the Guranhatta establishment will exemplify. But great, as is the expense, and the

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relief it affords, however disproportionate to the mass of suffering which needs assistance, still the quantum of good it *does*, is certainly very well bestowed.

Estimate.—Guranhatta expenditure for one month—

1 Surgeon,.....	100
1 Apothecary or Head Assistant,	224
2 Dressers at 12 each,	24
2 Compounders at 5 each,	10
1 Peon,	5
1 Durwan,.....	4
1 Bheesty,	4
1 Sweeper,	4
House Rent,	100
Bazar Medicines, &c.,	90
<hr/>	
Total Sicca Rupees.....	565

I would not however, recommend the establishment of more institutions of this kind because I think I can point out a cheaper and better mode of effecting the only object we all hold in view—the most effectual and economical relief to the native sick.

The *second* kind of Dispensary has been for many years established in Ireland, and more recently has been adopted in several large cities in England. I can speak of their organization and working from personal observation of several, especially those in the Southwark, Newington, Camberwell and Peckam districts of London. In these institutions a physician or surgeon attends daily at the general Dispensaries to prescribe for casual patients; this duty over, he visits at their own homes, the sick of his district, and he is obliged to attend lying-in women. For these duties which occupy his whole time and expose him to constant fatigue, he usually receives no salary, and in some cases a nominal reward of from 60 to 100 £ per annum.

There can be no doubt but this system works well, nay admirably, for the sick poor, but it is obvious that it could only be carried into effect under the peculiar circumstances of the medical profession in England.

The officers of these dispensaries are, with scarcely any exception young physicians of great accomplishments, but having no private practice, they devote themselves for two or three years to routine duties of this kind in order to introduce themselves to the public and to collect experience as practitioners. The paltry emolument of the office in no case does more than pay the expense of a vehicle, indeed, generally is insufficient for that expenditure.

Such dispensaries are altogether useless as sources of primary education, indeed no one is appointed to them who has not completed his professional studies,

were it otherwise, were they allotted to mere students destitute of previous clinical experience, they would be the sources of evil infinitely greater than the good they now accomplish.

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At present it would be quite impossible to establish these visiting Dispensaries in Calcutta. The older medical officers are too much occupied in practice, or other duties, to make them available, the junior officers are too few in number, and all moreover thoroughly occupied in peculiar duties. As to employment of the native students of the Medical College as visitors, I have no hesitation as one of their teachers, in stating my conviction that such a measure would be a calamity to the sick and fatal to the success of the College itself. These young men are still necessarily destitute of any knowledge of disease, and under the present imperfect provision for their clinical instruction, some years must elapse before they *ought* to be trusted with the care of a *single serious case*. I say this with some reluctance because it is an admission of the inutility and failure of our institution, unless its clinical arrangements be differently organized, an event which may possibly be indefinitely postponed.

But were we provided with a proper clinical hospital, where we could educate our pupils thoroughly in the principles and practice of the treatment of acute diseases and severe surgical maladies, I would then most earnestly recommend the establishment in Calcutta, and indeed in all large cities, of numerous Dispensaries of the Second Class. We could in two years hence provide them with trust-worthy native physicians and organize them so cheaply that they would accomplish infinite good.

The Guranhatta Dispensary now costs 565 rupees per month, exclusive of Medicine. The Dispensaries I allude to would each cost as follows—

Native Surgeon,	100
2 Compounders,	10
Rent,	40
Servants,	20
Bazar Medicines,	90
	<hr/>
	260

I would willingly contract to supply Dispensaries of the most efficient kind at this rate, which is little more than the salary of the Apothecaries of the existing establishments. The third and last kind of Dispensaries has been but rarely tried in Europe, but it has always done much good. I attended one of the kind for two years in Dublin, and another, the Hospital of the Faculty of Medicine, for several months in Paris. The relief they afforded was great, but certainly unequal to that effected by the second kind. In both the cases I allude to, they were used, however, chiefly as subordinate clinical schools.

In Calcutta it would be, I think altogether inexpedient to adopt this system. In the first place, suppose six such Dispensaries, each with twelve beds were established in different localities, it is obvious that we must place them under European

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superintendence on the Guranhatta Dispensary system. if my statement of the incompetence of our present pupils be correct. The expense would consequently amount to 3,500 Rs. per month, and all this for the treatment of 72 acute cases, these cases again could not possibly be made available for the instruction of the pupils.

Let us contrast, then, this plan with that which I propose and compare them chiefly in their pecuniary details.

Expense of Clinical Hospital for 200 patients, with a Dispensary attached :—

Hospital and Dispensary,	Rs. 1,300
5 Dispensaries with Native Surgeons,	„ 1,300
<hr/>	
Total Rs.	2,600

Being 900 rupees per month less than the Hospital Dispensaries taken with all their objections.

I am well aware that the third kind of Dispensary was proposed by the late Mr. Bramley, and the plan is consequently entitled to be treated with great attention and respect.

The vast importance of the question, however, justifies me in stating that one of the chief objects our lamented friend held in view, in recommending the adoption of these Dispensaries, was the provision of immediate employment for some of the pupils of the Medical College. It was too frequently represented to him from many quarters, that the school would be deserted, were not some situations of this kind speedily allotted to the pupils, and I believe, myself, that such a disposition existed at the time to a great extent. The pupils considered his influence quite sufficient to procure for them all they could desire, and with the natural impatience of young men, they daily urged on him the necessity of such a measure, but the death of our respected Principal has altogether altered the feelings of the pupils on this point. They are now satisfied with their condition and contented to depend on their own resources: they look on the future with anxiety it is true, but meanwhile they are perfectly prepared to follow up the probationary period and fit themselves for the duties which they will soon be called on to perform.

To sum up my opinions on this subject, I may observe, that a joint system of Hospitals and Dispensaries is requisite to fulfil the great object of relieving the sick, an object which embraces *essentially* the provision of an Hospital of instruction for native medical pupils, I would suggest then that the contemplated Hospital be made essentially a clinical school, organized as closely as possible according to the Edinburgh system and officered by the Professors of the Medical College, who have offered to discharge these duties without salary.

2. That the two Dispensaries now in existence be continued for two years from the opening of the clinical hospital, and then abolished, and that in their stead six Dispensaries be established in Calcutta and the Suburbs.

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Guranihatta, Park-Street, Kidderpore, Entally, Seebpore, Cossipore, &c. &c.

The control and supervision of these Dispensaries I would allot to the medical gentlemen now in charge of the Park-street and Guranihatta establishments.

The total expense of this scheme would be :—

Central and Clinical Hospital,	1,200
Six Dispensaries,	1,560
Superintendents,	200

Total Rupees..... 2,960*

From which deduct two Dispensaries abolished,..... 1,120

Total expense of one Hospital and six Dispensaries, Rs. 1,840

This arrangement would provide for the treatment of *acute* disease in Hospital and in the homes of the patients; would multiply threefold the means of relief to *chronic* cases; would ensure the due education of the pupils; provide them with respectable and sufficiently paid appointments, and would mean-while stimulate the present pupils of the school and attract others to the prosecution of such studies. It would lastly enable us to provide, in connection with the vaccine fund, efficient native surgeons for the mofussil cities in every one of which I would organize a Dispensary such as that I propose to establish in Calcutta.

WM. B. O'SHAUGHNESSY,

Professor of Chemistry and Medicine,

Medical College.

Calcutta, 13th May, 1837.

I fully agree in the opinions expressed by my colleague in the above paper. It is therefore unnecessary that I should offer any observations of my own upon the subject. I could add nothing of value to the excellent remarks Dr. O'Shaughnessy has made.

H. H. GOODEVE, M. D.

Professor of Anatomy and Medicine,

Medical College.

Calcutta, May 13, 1837.

* The Hospital has since this paper was written been estimated at 1,300 rupees per month, this will make the total expense of the Hospital and six Dispensaries, Rupees 1,940.

No. 58.

Muttý Loll Seal,
22d May, 1837.

No. 58.

22d May, 1837.

MUTTY LOLL SEAL.

Observations on the Fever Hospital.

I approve of the continuance of the Fever Hospital on its present site and situation; all that I have to observe on this head is that the Police Hospital should be entirely separated from it, so that there may be no communication between the inmates of the one and those of the other.

It is highly desirable that there should be a separate and distinct entrance to these Hospitals respectively.

~~That~~ In the event of this separation taking place, and the friends and relatives of the patients of the Fever Hospital being permitted to visit them during their domiciliation in the Hospital, I am of opinion that Native patients would feel encouraged and become more willing to resort to the Institution and avail themselves of its benefits more extensively.

It would tend very much to the improvement of the knowledge and experience of the Medical students were they allowed to be present at the treatment of the fever cases by the European physicians.

Pursuant to the immemorial custom of my countrymen, the allowing of the friends and connexions of the patients to visit them during their confinement in the Hospital would have the salutary tendency of giving them good cheer and keeping up their spirits, whereas an exclusion of the indulgence would conduce materially to depress them, as the native practice and customs are diametrically opposed to those of Europeans.

Whilst on the subject of the Fever Hospital, I beg to suggest the propriety of some enactment for the prevention of one of the principal causes of fever in Calcutta.

It must have been observed by every observant person, that there are in Calcutta hundreds of filthy stagnant holes and small tanks, in which natives are in the habit of bathing, and this practice in conjunction with the malarious exhalation from these stagnant pools, is the principal cause of fever and ague amongst the native population. I would suggest that no person should be allowed to dig a tank within the limits of Calcutta smaller than such dimensions might seem necessary to the Conservancy department, to keep it pure, and that all smaller ones should be filled up; that Government should cause to be dug, four large

Tanks (similar to the one before the Hindoo College,) in every square mile of Calcutta, two to be appropriated for bathing and two for drinking, and these would be sufficient for every purpose, and would keep the city much more free from fever in future.

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Natives have also in their compounds and small open spaces behind their houses, many of these small tanks, the stench from which during the hot weather sometimes is almost intolerable. I would suggest that none of these should be allowed to remain, but that all tanks under certain dimensions, whether enclosed within walls, or otherwise, should be filled up, and parties not allowed to dig any under the dimensions fixed.

MUTTY LOLL SEAL.

Calcutta, 10th May, 1837.

No. 58 A.

No. 58 A.

May, 1837.

R. Cowasjee, Esq.
May, 1837.

RUSTOMJEE COWASJEE, Esq.

Having been present at several of the late fires that have devastated the city, I beg to lay before the meeting a statement of facts that come under my personal observation. During the great fire that extended all along the Upper Circular Road, I particularly noticed the scarcity of water in that direction. I observed some fire engines on the spot, but they were rendered perfectly useless for want of water, there being few, if any tanks in the vicinity of the fire, the consequence was that there was nothing to check the fury of the flames which went on consuming every hut and building in the way with fearful rapidity.

I think the Committee ought to bring this to the notice of Government, and that too without delay, as a more favorable opportunity for purchasing ground and digging tanks could not present itself than the present. I would recommend that a line of deep, large tanks should be immediately dug, at convenient distances, all along the Upper Circular Road, where water is more scarce than in any other part of the town. The ground might now be purchased at moderate prices before the proprietors have time to erect new huts on the site of those burnt down. I think the Government ought to bear the expense, but as an inducement for them to come forward, I will undertake, if Government will buy the ground, to excavate at my own expense four large tanks between the Baitaconnah, Mirzapore and Manicktollah, and I am sure that many rich land-holders will readily do as much or more in other parts of the town.

I take this opportunity also to bring to the notice of the meeting the great distress that prevails among the poor people who have been burnt out of their houses—many of these poor creatures having lost all they possessed, have no

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means of renewing their habitations, and are actually starving for want of food. I have no doubt but that Government will (if it has not already) contribute liberally to their relief, but the public should aid them in this charitable work. I know many who are ready to contribute handsomely, provided they can be assured that their contributions will be properly applied. I would suggest that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the truth of the representations that may be brought before them, with full powers to aid such of the poor as actually stand in need of it. The Committee to consist of persons well acquainted with the locality of the City and the Suburbs. The Superintendent of Police should be on the Committee.

It should be urged upon Government by the Committee that hereafter it be imperative on the natives to build their huts with tiled roofs; it is a mistake to suppose that the expense thereof will be much greater than thatch, especially at present when in consequence of the number of fires that have occurred within the last month, straw suitable for thatching, has greatly risen in price. On an average I am persuaded that the difference between a thatched and tiled roof will not exceed one rupee eight annas for each hut, or at the utmost two rupees. It is argued that the heat under a tiled roof will be much greater than under a thatch, and that sickness will be engendered in consequence, but how is it at Bombay and at Madras where the native huts are roofed entirely with tiles, you seldom hear of fires there, and I doubt if sickness be more prevalent than it would be were thatched houses used.

These are mere suggestions for the consideration of the meeting, but whether adopted or not I am sure you will all agree with me that something should be immediately done to relieve the distressed poor.

(Signed) RUSTOMJEE COWASJEE.

May, 1837.

No. 59.

22d May, 1837.

No. 59.

B. Cowasjee, Esq.
22d May, 1837.**RUSTOMJEE COWASJEE, Esq.**

In my former Minute on the subject of the late fires, I gave it as my opinion that all persons should be compelled to erect their dwellings of less inflammable materials than thatch and mats

The chief objection which I learn the authorities have, to pass such a Law, is the hardship it will occasion to the poor, by increasing the expense of their huts ; but I think I can without much trouble convince the Committee that no such result would follow the measure. I know from my own experience that a hut or shed with mud walls and tiled roof may be erected at a cost not exceeding 25 to 30 per cent. over one built of mats and straw ; while the expense of keeping the former in repair is infinitely less than that of the latter. Those who have paid any attention to the subject must know that a thatched roof, if not requiring *complete* renewal annually, at least requires very considerable repairs, while on the other hand, in the more solid and safe description of building, the walls require no repairs but such as the inmates may give them, free of expense, while the few tiles, broken or displaced may be replaced for a few annas.

Another advantage which they possess over the thatched huts is that while the latter, give it what repairs you may, will seldom last more than two or three years, the former, if properly built at first, will if a little care be taken to renew from time to time the lashings of the frame work that supports the roof, last six, eight, or even ten years, so that in fact although the proprietor of the hut be originally put to the expense of a few rupees extra, he will be more than compensated for it, in two or three years, by the saving he makes in the repairs (to say nothing of the greater security of his property from fire).

The landlord, too, would benefit by the measure, inasmuch as he would have better security for his rent. In most cases the proprietors of land let it out in small patches to individuals, who build their own huts on it. If the tenant be a poor man or not likely to remain long on the spot he constructs as cheap a dwelling as he can, it frequently happens that the tenant is unable to pay his rent, his debt increases, his hut, the only security the landlord has, is sold to pay the claim, if of thatch it produces a mere trifle, whereas if well-constructed it will readily realize a price proportionate to its original cost ; again, where the landlord himself owns the hut, he gets a higher rent by 40 or 50 per cent. for a tiled one, than for one of thatch.

Thus then I have attempted to shew that if compelled to build in a substantial manner, the natives so far from suffering injury thereby, will in fact be gainers.

No. 50.

R. Cowasjee, Esq.
29d May, 1837.

That there would be an outcry against such a Regulation, at first, I have not the least doubt, but when once the law is passed and enforced, compliance will readily follow. The fact is that if left to themselves, the natives of Bengal with a few enlightened exceptions will not move one step out of their way to make the slightest improvement, they will not expend a rupee extra, even though you convince them that by so doing they will gain double the amount. But if forced to do it, by the strong arm of power, they will grumble at the hardship at first and then, when they begin to feel the beneficial effects of the measure, they will admit the wisdom of it.

On going over the ground the scite of the late fires, I observed the ruins of many well built huts with mud walls, and at a rough guess, I estimate the number to have been considerably more than half of those consumed. These as well, as several *puckah* houses, would have been saved but for their vicinity to the straw huts, which in many cases are erected close up to the very walls and windows of the tiled and *puckah* houses, but the Police, it seems, had not the power to prevent their erection, or to enforce their being built of less inflammable materials and thus the fire spread without the possibility of check or controul.

I mentioned in my last paper that at Bombay and Madras no thatched buildings are allowed in the Towns. In Bombay the prohibition was ordered in 1805, when in consequence of a devastating fire that lasted three days, Government issued an order that in future no thatched buildings should be allowed. The order was obeyed, and the consequence has been that fires have been far less frequent there since that time, and when they do take place are easily extinguished.

Another point to which I would call the attention of the authorities, and especially of the Fever Hospital Committee, is the necessity that exists for enforcing *cleanliness* among the natives, the best means of doing which is by compelling the landlords to divide off their ground among their tenants in such a manner as shall prevent the accumulation of filth that now takes place. The present practice with few exceptions is thus:—A man possessed of a piece of land lets it out piecemeal to twenty or thirty tenants, perhaps in the very centre of the patch, those, who first commence building, dig a hole for the purpose of supplying themselves with mud to raise their floors with, their example is followed by the rest—into this hole or pit is thrown the whole of the accumulated filth of the surrounding village, not even excepting the ordure of the inhabitants. In the course of time, with the aid of sun and rain it becomes a perfect nuisance, contaminating the whole of the surrounding atmosphere and as a matter of course engendering fever, and other malignant diseases; from these sink-holes the filth is never removed!

But it is useless to attempt to describe the nuisance on paper, let one or more of the European Committee accompany me to those parts that are inhabited by natives and I will venture to say that they will be better convinced in one hour, of the correctness of what I have said than by the evidence of fifty witnesses in a week.

The only way that occurs to me of remedying this evil, is to compel the natives to erect their huts with greater regularity, and to impose a fine on the land-

lord, as well as on the tenants wherever such sink-holes and filth may be found. Regularity in the buildings would cause a freer circulation of air than can be the case where huts are huddled together, and moreover the landlord will be a gainer, inasmuch as he will then be able to let out the ground that at present, from its contiguity to the nuisance, no one will take. For the accommodation of the natives, public tatties might be erected in various parts of the town, or if that could not be, the proprietors of land might be compelled to appropriate some corner of their property for the purpose, so situated as that the filth might be removed by the conservancy carts.

No. 59.

R. Cowasjee, Esq.
22d May, 1837.

On the subject of the scarcity of water in various parts of the town, as pointed out in my former minute, I have been requested to lay before the Meeting the accompanying petition, signed by a great number of the inhabitants of Boitaconnah and Bow Bazar, the petition as will be seen, is addressed to, and was intended for the Lottery Committee, but the subscribers having learnt, that that Committee had not power to attend to their suggestions, have through their representative Mr. A. DeSouza, requested me to lay it before you, in order to ensure its coming under the perusal of the Government. You will observe that not only is it represented therein that a great scarcity of water exists in cases of fire; but that even for culinary and other purposes the inhabitants are greatly inconvenienced by the want of tanks. In Mr. DeSouza's letter to me, which accompanies the petition, you will perceive a suggestion that a tank should be dug on the ~~site~~ *site* of the late Boitaconnah Bazar behind the Roman Catholic Church, the ground belongs to the Government, who it seems are about to dispose of it, but if applied to, for the purpose suggested by Mr. DeSouza, I am sure the Government will grant the request.

There are many other points on which I might dwell, as conducive to the safety of the town, and the health and comforts of the inhabitants; but I have already occupied too much of your time and shall therefore defer them to some other day.

RUSTOMJEE COWASJEE.

Calcutta, 11th May, 1837.

No. 59. A.

A. DeSouza, Esq.

No. 59 A.

RUSTOMJEE COWASJEE, Esquire.

MY DEAR SIR,

As you are a Member of the Fever Hospital and also one of the Committee for the Improvement of the Town of Calcutta, I beg to enclose the original letter which was recently addressed by the inhabitants of Boitaconnah to the Lottery Committee, soliciting their aid and influence in converting the parcel of land, commonly known by the name of the Boitaconnah Bazar, which is the *property of Government*, for the purpose of making a tank for public use. In addition to the Memorial herein enclosed, I beg to state for your information that I understand the said property is shortly to be disposed of, in consequence of the present tenant being obliged to forego his claim against the ryots, from all the thatched buildings having been destroyed by fire, the present is therefore the best opportunity for the Government to authorize the disposal of this land, estimated about *one biggah*, for the purpose solicited by the Memorialists. In the hope that you will take an early opportunity in submitting the enclosed to the *General Committee* for their early consideration and that they may lay before Government.

I remain, your's very faithfully,

A. DESOUZA.

8th May, 1837.

TO C. TROWER, C. R. BARWELL, J. MASTER, D. MACFARLAN AND G. J. GORDON, ESQUIRES.

Members of the Lottery Committee, &c. &c.

GENTLEMEN,

We, the undersigned inhabitants residing in the Lower Bow Bazar, and Boitackhana street, and Middle Circular Road, viewing with admiration the various and confessedly great improvements which the Lottery Committee, under the orders of Government, have from time to time made within the Town of Calcutta, beg, on behalf of ourselves, and other inhabitants residing in the Bow Bazar, Boitackhana and Middle Circular Roads, to draw your attention to the want of a public tank in a central situation in their neighbourhood.

There are a few tanks to which we could without molestation resort, but the water in them in the dry season becomes in a state of stagnation, and over whose surface a green slimy substance coagulates, thereby rendering it more filthy and totally unfit for domestic purposes, and it is doubtful whether the drinking of it would be healthy.

The water from one or two tanks of private individuals, which is permitted to be taken only during the rainy season, allow but a scanty supply, and that but at certain hours in the day, which the inhabitants could not at all times command, and on that account are put to frequent and great distress from the want of an article so necessary, particularly in the scorching heat and dry season, and it is really a pity to see the poor and indigent class of the native population begging about for water from place to place.

We beg to submit, that the most central spot which presents to our view for the excavation of a *public tank*, is that of the petty Bazar south of the Boitackhana Roman Catholic Church.

This spot is said to belong to the Honorable Company, and the Revenues realized from the Bazar are, we understand, very trifling, for the straw huts are often burnt down, thereby endangering the lives and property of the inhabitants of the adjoining houses. This spot, with the addition of a *few* cottahs of ground on the west (which might be procured at a very moderate rate) would admit of a long tank of the dimension of the one in Champatolah, down Amherst Street.

We feel no hesitation in giving it as our opinion, that a more central spot for a tank, calculated to afford convenience to a populous neighbourhood, could not be selected; for, exclusive of the Middle Circular Road, Sealdah, Mirzapore, there would be several other communications to the tank, i. e. by Chore Bagaun, from Boitackhana Street, Serpentine Lane, Dixon's Lane, &c. &c. to supply the inhabitants of St. James' Church Street, Shakaree Tolah, Lemboo Tolah, &c. and further that the expense for the excavation of this tank, added to the cost of a small quantity of ground on the west of the Bazar, would in the aggregate amount to less than any tank hitherto dug under orders of Government.

You, Gentlemen, who are ever alive to the public interests, will, we doubt not, recommend to Government an extension of its liberality to contribute to the comforts of the inhabitants, in respect to the digging of the tank in question, a benefit so easily bestowed, and so widely diffused.

As a further inducement to Government to improve the state of the Lower Bow Bazar and Boitackhana Street, we beg leave to bring to notice the extreme dusty state of the road, a circumstance which has had a considerable effect in depreciating the value of the property in that street, and that the want of a tank debars the principal inhabitants from having the roads watered in front of their respective premises.

We confidently hope that you may be pleased to bestow your early attention on this our representation, and bring it to the favorable attention of Government.

We have the honor, &c.

(Signed by 90 Inhabitants.)

Calcutta, 15th December, 1836.

No. 60.

A. St. L. McMahon, Esq.
25th May, 1837.

No. 60.

25th May, 1837.

A. St. L. McMAHON, Esq.

*Replies to the Queries proposed to the Magistrates by Mr. Secretary
Mangles under the Orders of Government.*

Q. 1. How far the system established by the Resolutions of the 12th October, 1836, and which has had a trial of four years has been found practically superior to that which it superceded?—A. I feel considerable difficulty in offering any opinion as to the merits of the two systems, chiefly because the watch and ward of the town is now under the exclusive controul of the Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, instead of being as formerly under that of the Magistrates in the Report Department. Under the old system the Magistrates took their reports at the Police Office, whereas the Superintendent takes them at his own house, so that formerly I occasionally sat with the Magistrate while taking the report and frequently joined him in disposing of cases as they were brought before him. and thus had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the conduct of the Police Officers. At present I have no such opportunities, and can only draw loose inferences incidentally from circumstances that turn up in cases that come before me judicially, or for commitment. My inferences I may add are favorable to the Calcutta Police. I should doubt whether there is much better protection for person, or property, in any great Seaport, particularly when I advert to the nature of our population, the facilities and temptations to crime, arising from that, and even from the climate itself.

Q. 2. Are crimes fewer or less heinous?—A. Judging from the cases brought before me in the two Divisions I have had charge of, I should say there has been little or no change in the frequency of crime, or of the heinousness of its character.

Q. 3. Are the perpetrators more frequently apprehended, and if apprehended more frequently punished by sentence of the Magistrates or by the Supreme Court?—A. In all these points I cannot say that I perceive much difference.

Q. 4. Are more or less of the crimes committed brought to the official knowledge of the Magistrates or of the Superintendent of Police?—A. For the reason before explained, I cannot satisfactorily speak to this point as the Superintendent takes all the reports at his own house. I have had occasion however to know that in cases where no person is apprehended, the offence is not brought to the notice of the Division Magistrate, and this even in some cases where parties have been in custody.

Q. 5. Are the benefits rendered the community by the Police, more or less alloyed by the abuse of the power necessarily entrusted to its executive officers?—

A. To this point likewise I am only able to speak from incidental circumstances that may come to light in the course of my investigation into such Division cases as are sent up to me. But I should say that the readiness with which complaints against abuses of power are attended to, and the facilities for bringing such to the notice of the public, if redress were denied by the Magistracy, have their natural effect of intimidation, and gradually operate on the proneness of the Chowkeedars and other underlings to corruption and abuse of power.

Q. 6. Are Natives or Europeans found the best qualified to the effective and unobjectionable executive agents of Police in the city, and if some of the latter are indispensable, in what proportion, under what limits and under what restrictions ought they to be employed?—**A.** I am of opinion that it is best to employ Europeans in all cases where process has to be served on Europeans, or where resistance may be expected, but in other cases, I think Natives preferable: our present Constables, and indeed those for some years past have been much more respectable than the same class when I first joined the Police in 1824, this I attribute to the great influx of Europeans into Calcutta, which gives greater latitude for selection among respectable persons, in humble life, disappointed of bettering themselves. On the whole I am not aware of any sufficient reason for desiring any change in the present practice with regard to the employment of Europeans in the Police. The advancement of Mr. McCann I am satisfied has had a very beneficial operation on the hopes and fears of the European class, and I think it of great importance that persons of this class, who are exposed to much temptation in multiplied forms, should always have something to look forward to, in the shape of promotion for good conduct, and reward for integrity.

Q. 7. What steps have been taken and with what success to check the depredations understood to be very frequent and extensive, which are supposed to be committed upon their employers by the domestic servants of English or Anglo-Indian residents in Calcutta?—**A.** Upon these points, and for the reason previously urged more than once, I do not consider myself to be in a position to offer any very strong opinions. But I can say that when crimes of the class referred to fall under my own, and I may say my colleague's cognizance, they are visited with greater severity of punishment than would befall the like offences perpetrated by ordinary individuals, unconnected with the injured parties. Although I cannot take on myself, being without means of accurately judging, to say whether crime of this quality is on the increase or not, yet I must repeat, what I have before hinted as my opinion, that the absolute amount of depredations even in this domestic class, is not alarmingly great. In judging of this question we ought to consider the climate, with its open doors and windows, the detached style of building houses and offices, the number of servants, and followers, compared with masters. The trusting and careless habits of the latter, and the greatness of the temptation to pilfer in a country where the value of money is so high, wages and absolute necessities of life so low, and by consequence where a tea spoon, or stray coin is worth so much more to the thief who takes it than to the careless master who is plundered.

No. 60.

A St. L. McMahon, Esq.,
25th May, 1837.

On the subject discussed in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the Chief Magistrate's report for the year 1835 respecting the field of occupation for the new Magistrates and for the duties of the Conservancy Department—I beg to say that I am ready to take up all conservancy cases that occur in my Division, and with which a single Magistrate has power legally to deal. With regard to the present or future honorary Magistrates I should think that the best and most useful way for the public in which they could employ themselves for sometime would be to sit at their convenience with one or other of the Division Magistrates, and assist to dispose of cases on the file in which the non-stipendiary, particularly if a native Magistrate, might render great assistance in sifting evidence and judging of credibilities.

A. ST. L. McMAHON.

No. 61.

C. K. Robison, Esq.,
25th May, 1837.

No. 61.

25th May, 1837.

C. K. ROBISON, Esq.

To the Secretary of the first Sub-Committee of Municipal Enquiry.

SIR,

Having been requested by the Sub-Committee, when I was before it on the 19th current, to commit to paper any suggestions I could afford them of a plan for vesting the collection and disbursement of the assessment upon houses, in a Municipal body, instead of a single individual, as at present, I beg to send you the following outline.

The groundwork of such an establishment ought, in my opinion, to consist of the whole male inhabitants and householders who pay annual rents and house tax to a specified amount. These should have the power to nominate representatives, who, when deputed, would form a "Board of Commissioners of Police."

In furtherance of this, the city ~~shall~~ be divided into departments or wards, and the inhabitants of each ward should have the power of voting for one General and two Resident Commissioners, who would remain in office for one year, but be capable of re-election.

The amount of house rent entitling an inhabitant to vote must, for the present, be comparatively high, and might be fixed at Rs. 30 a month in all streets south of Colootollah, and Rs. 15 in all streets to the north of it, according to the assessment books ;—no one should be allowed to vote who is in arrear of his house tax.

This body of Commissioners to be increased by certain Commissioners, *ex-officiis*; viz. the Magistrates, the Sheriff, Town Major, the Junior Members of the Revenue, Military, Medical, and Marine Boards, so as to represent the several branches of the service, and by the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Trade Association, thereby representing the remaining inhabitants.

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It should be made the duty of the *General Committee of Wards*, and of the Resident Commissioners of each, to act as local guardians of their districts; they should be head constables within their respective wards, becoming acquainted with the occupations and characters of all the inmates thereof; they should keep an eye over the conduct of the day and night watchmen within it; they should quell all disturbances and improprieties within it, take cognizance of, and use all means for suppressing gaming and other improper houses; sign certificates of character to entitle Tavern and Boarding-house keepers, and also retailers of spirits, to procure licenses, and collect the sentiments of the inhabitants on all cases of interest.

They would also, in conjunction with the Commissioners, *ex-officiis*, form a deliberative assembly, and hold special and regular *statutory* meetings at which all public measures regarding the cleaning, watching and lighting of the city, are discussed of. They should, at these meetings, appoint officers, regulate salaries, levy the assessment and possess the whole springs of the executive; Committees should be named out of these Commissioners, for transacting the principal business.

The election of the Commissioners, except those *ex-officiis*, should take place on a fixed day every year, at a specified place in each ward, where a clerk should sit to receive the votes and signatures of the electors, and no one should be allowed to vote by proxy, but every one voting should attend personally, the books should be open for two days, and at a certain hour the votes counted, and the successful candidate declared.

The execution of the Police might be thus arranged, a superintendent of local knowledge, and of certain legal experience should be chosen by the Board, who should be the instrument of prosecution on all occasions before the Magistrates; he must have legal power to apprehend and detain for a limited period; and also to institute preliminary investigations, in the same manner as procurators fiscal are permitted to do by the Scots criminal law. He should have as many deputies as there are magisterial divisions of the Town, and immediately under these should be town serjeants and native officers. There should be inspectors of lighting and cleaning the streets, and a master of fire engines.

In each division there should be one or two places for lodging complaints and detaining culprits, till the preliminary investigation is concluded, when they should be forwarded to the head office.

Criminal Courts in each division should be held every lawful day where the Magistrates should sit and try all cases brought before them; punishing summarily

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where they have the power, and referring to the criminal sessions such cases as, by law, require to be tried before a jury.

The General, and Resident Commissioners, by election, would thus, it is to be expected, possess the character of ubiquity; if they were scrupulous in inspecting the whole details of the establishment, and localities of their wards, both as regards the situation of prisoners and the dispensation of the funds for their maintenance. They ought to visit the head and subordinate watchhouses, both day and night, and be rigorous in exacting the proper execution of the duties of the officers. No abuse if proper vigilance were used could escape them, and they would not only secure the good will of their constituents, but be proud of their office, and ambitious of being re-elected.

On the foregoing plan, and supposing that each of the present *four* Divisions of the Town were divided into two, from South to North, at any convenient street making eight Wards, the following would be the Police and Conservancy Board of Commissioners in Calcutta.

1st.—General Commissioners, ex-officiis, Stipendiary Magistrates, ...	3
Sheriff,	1
Town Major,.....	1
Junior Member of the Revenue, Military, Medical and Marine	}
Boards,*	
Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and of Trade	}
Association,†	
	2
	11
2d.—General Commissioners of Wards, by election <i>one</i> in each,.....	8
3d.—Resident Commissioners of Wards, <i>two</i> in each,	16
	35

* In order to represent the Civil, Military, Medical and Marine Services.

† To represent the remaining European Inhabitants.

Although eight wards have been suggested in the first place, I would urge the increase of these to double or even treble the number, so soon as the first Commissioners elected became accustomed to their duties.

Such a system of Municipal management has been found to answer admirably in Britain, and it appears to me that Calcutta contains materials for a Board limited as I have suggested, in point of numbers.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. K. ROBISON.

22d May, 1837.

No. 62.

25th May, 1837.

C. K. ROBISON, Esq.

No. 62.

C. K. Robison, Esq.
25th May, 1837.*To the Secretary to the First Committee of Municipal Enquiry.*

SIR,

In the outline plan of a Municipal body for managing the levying and disbursement of the House Tax of Calcutta, which I sent in yesterday, in compliance with the request of the Committee, I did not offer a single word of argument in favor of such a system of Police, because I understood that all that was asked of me was, how such a body could, in my opinion, be organized *in this place*, but I have a strong predilection for such forms of management wherever they are practicable, and as I think that many reasons exist here for making the experiment, I shall trouble the Committee with a few of them, without stopping to explain how far these are either borrowed or original, but merely stating that they entirely accord with my own experience, and ~~connection~~, in all particulars.

To coerce so idle and immoral a population as that of the lower orders of Calcutta, and to restrain them from committing crimes is a task of no ordinary difficulty, and when taken in the aggregate, most people will say it is impossible; yet if we ask ourselves, can we restrain the inhabitants of a small village from crime, or detect the offenders, we should answer in the affirmative, and think the task easy; *division* is therefore indicated, which must be carried into effect in such manner, that there shall be always a regular well defined mode of conveying the impetus from the known to the badly informed. The intermediate agents must be distinct, that they may not clash, and each perform just so much as is allotted to it. After this sub-division there must be classification and combination; several small divisions must be combined into a large one; and these, again into larger, till the whole be united under one moving power.

It is impossible for any Government to keep up an establishment in regular pay sufficient for the purposes of an efficient Police, independent of the people, and if it were possible, it would be highly objectionable. All that is, or ought to be requisite under any circumstances, is an establishment sufficient to conduct the details of the duty, and to afford the people a rallying point, when their more active exertions are required to preserve the peace, or to apprehend offenders; for as the peaceable and well disposed must far outnumber those who are disturbers of the peace; the latter must always be overpowered when it is necessary to call forth the other part of the community against them.

To discover, then, what individuals are evil disposed is an essential, indeed, indispensable step in the formation of an efficient system of preventive Police. This can only be done through the medium of the individuals who compose the com-

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munity, and only with safety, through the respectable part of them. The hired officers of Government are not sufficiently admitted into the confidence of the people to be competent to give this information, nor could their information be safely relied on. They would extort money by using threats of informing; or exaggerate the information they gave, to enhance their own importance and the value of their services, whereas respectable individuals, chosen by themselves, would have the welfare of the community at heart, and though often loath to accuse, they would be just in their accusations. Thus the worst effects of espionage would be avoided, and the certainty of discovery, not perhaps of minor, but of all criminals, would be effected; for no man who was an offender, to the extent of crime, could reside in one of the smaller divisions without being known to the community as a person who procures his livelihood by unlawful means, and this would become still less possible were a respectable person among them, one in the confidence of his neighbours specially appointed, and expected to be informed, and to give information of the mode of life of suspected persons. This special nomination or appointment is necessary; for it is that only which rescues the person nominated from the odium attached, in all countries, to an informer, and makes the people among whom he resides, as well as those whom he may detect, respect and submit to him.

It is not merely the actual fitness of such a system for the discovery and apprehension of offenders that renders it so powerful, but the moral effect it produces on the minds of the wicked, who can never be sure of not being deceived and detected, even by their accomplices, or by those in whom, to make their crimes profitable, they must place confidence.

Many, I know, are of opinion that the respectable individuals, to whom I allude, would not accept of such authority.—I think they would. It would be a mark of the confidence of Government and of their fellow citizens, and consequently a distinction. It would moreover enable them to do much good in their neighbourhood; and thus, they would become more active contributors towards the general welfare of the community than private stations admit of; a motive of itself too strong, and a feeling far too general amongst such men, to admit of the want of candidates.

I am one of those, who, entertaining, perhaps, a more favorable opinion than some others, of the *upper classes* of Natives in this country, are anxious that they should be instructed how to assist in the proper government of it, rather than that they should be kept in perpetual domination; and as the successful systems of Calcutta may be expected to extend themselves to the surrounding Zillahs, and the Upper Provinces, I would desire to see this form of Police tried within it, as all errors can be immediately corrected, and no possible danger or mischief arise from any imperfection, or the want of success.

Trusting that these hurried lines will be received indulgently by the Committee,

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. K. ROBISON.

21th May, 1837.

No. 63.

25th May, 1837.

No. 63.
David Hare, Esq.
26th May, 1837.

DAVID HARE, Esq. *Secretary to the Medical College.*

Scheme for the Hospital proposed to be attached to the Medical College.

1. The proposed Hospital should consist of buildings capable of accommodating separately three classes of individuals. 1st, Hindoos of high caste; 2d, Mahometans and Hindoos of lower caste; 3dly, Women. A portion of the institution might likewise be set apart for Christians, many of whom would gladly avail themselves of the advantages of the Hospital. For these purposes a structure might be erected forming three sides of a square, each of the sides being distinct from the other, more especially that which is destined to receive the 1st class patients. The whole should be capable of containing 500 individuals. Two tanks at least would be necessary, quarters for a resident surgeon and numerous out offices.

2. The ground now occupied by the Police Hospital is amply sufficient for all the present purposes of such an institution, as the Committee may observe by a reference to the accompanying plan of those premises and ground plan of the proposed building. The total cost of erecting the structure there in contemplation is estimated by private builders at 50,000 Rupees. Natives probably would contract for a much smaller sum but the work would be very inferior. In recommending this site for the new Hospital, we of course contemplate the removal of that which now occupies the ground, another situation for which might easily be found, whilst the materials of the old will then become available for the new building.

3. It will of course be necessary to divide the Hospital effectually from the Medical College, but a high wall will answer that object completely, and with such a separation, we do not contemplate any injury to the College from the interference or curiosity of the Hospital inhabitants. Neither do we anticipate any difficulty on the part of the natives to avail themselves of the benefits offered them by the institution, because of its proximity to an anatomical school, whose operations they never will be permitted to witness, about which they can learn nothing except by report.

4. At the same time in conducting the management of the Hospital strict attention should be paid to the feelings and prejudices of the natives, and every precaution adopted which might remove from their minds any dread or dislike to enter an establishment that promises so great advantages to the native inhabitants of Calcutta.

5. It appears to us that the new institution should embrace the treatment of every variety of disorder, Surgical as well as Medical, perhaps therefore the term *Native General Hospital* would be more appropriate than that of Fever Hospital.

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6. An out patient room or Dispensary will be necessary wherein to examine, and prescribe for those who are able to attend there daily, and from whence cases may be selected for the Hospital wards.

7. If this institution be intended to form a useful school for the pupils of the College, the medical charge of the patients should be entrusted entirely to the Professor of that establishment. We have already proffered our services for this purpose and we beg once more to express our willingness to be entrusted with the duties in question, provided the Hospital be not placed under the controul of any superior medical officer. The appointment of such an individual as a Senior Surgeon or Superintendent is quite unnecessary in the proposed establishment. It would prove a burthensome addition to the expenses, and it would probably interfere with the advantages of the Hospital as regards the Medical College students. It is manifest that the Professors can employ the cases in the Hospital wards as a source of instruction to their pupils with far better success if the patients are placed completely under their management, than if the sick were in charge of another medical officer who might not always co-operate with them in their views of the treatment necessary for the patients, or the conduct requisite to be displayed towards the pupils.

8. A resident Surgeon will be needed, to attend in cases of emergency and to take charge of the sick during the absence of the visiting medical officers, quarters therefore must be provided for him and his salary may be 200 Rs. per month. The charge of the various wards may be assigned to the medical officers in equal proportion, the resident Surgeon taking his share in addition to the general duties which will devolve upon him.

9. The office of dressers and assistants should be performed by the pupils as in the European Hospitals, and these duties, highly important and instructive as they are, would soon become objects of honorable competition among the College students.

10. An Apothecary will also be required upon a salary of 100 rupees per month.

11. The establishment of servants, &c. might be as follows:—

1 Writer,	25
1 Compounder,	12
2 Dressers,	10
4 Bearers at 4 each,	16
3 Cooks at 5 each,	15
2 Bheesties at 4-8 each,	9
2 Bharees at 4-8 each,	9
2 Mehters at 4 each,	8
1 Matranee at 5,	5
2 Moordaferoshes at 3 each,	6
1 Dhobie,	10

Although the Hospital should be built with facilities for accommodating 500 individuals it is improbable that there will at present be more than 200 in patients, possibly they will not exceed 150 for some years, but allowing for the utmost number that can be expected the diet money of 200 at two annas each per day will amount per mensem to Rs. 750.

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The total monthly cost of the Hospital will then be as follows.

Resident Surgeon,.....	200
Apothecary,.....	100
Servants,.....	125
Food, &c. for 200 Patients,.....	750
Bazar Medicines and Sundries,.....	125

Total Rupees 1,300

12. If the proposition of erecting the Hospital upon the site pointed out in this paper be not approved, sufficient ground could unquestionably be procured in the immediate neighbourhood of the Medical College for about 20,000 or 25,000, or it might be rented at 150 or 200 Rupees per month. In either case while the buildings are in course of erection temporary accommodation could be afforded to the patients in choppured huts and tents.

DAVID HARE,

Secretary Medical College.

Medical College, the 25th May, 1837.

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25th May, 1837.

DR. A. R. JACKSON.

No. 64.

Dr. A. R. Jackson,
25th May, 1837.

I have very carefully gone over the report of the College Council as contained in Mr. Hare's letter of the 9th March, and without hesitation agree with that body in recommending that "an Hospital be established near the Medical College, in order that the pupils may have the benefit of Clinical instructions," but while I am thus fully impressed with the belief of its importance and its necessities for the purposes of efficient Medical education, yet, as a member of the Fever Hospital Committee, and in that capacity one of the guardians of the Funds entrusted to our care for its establishment and maintenance, I feel myself bound to differ from the framers of the above report in many of its details, and more especially in regard to a deviation from their original intention, that the proposed Hospital should not be erected within the premises of the Medical College, but in its vicinity.

The principal object in the foundation of the Fever Hospital, was the care of the sick, and the alleviation of their misery, and it was one of its principal claims

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Dr A. R. Jackson,
26th May, 1837.

to public support that the prejudices and feelings of all classes and castes of patients were to be strictly respected, and separate accommodation and attendance, as far as could be, provided for each. Were the plan now proposed by the Professors of the College adopted, viz. to have the Hospital built over the ranges at present occupied as Library, &c. no doubt some saving in outlay of money would be effected, but then not only would the benevolent intentions of the subscribers be defeated, but as a consequence, the hopes and wishes of the Professors themselves, as far as having the means of Clinical instructions, for an Hospital erected and conducted on the premises would never be more than the Police Hospital, already in existence on the spot, now is, viz. a place of shelter for the destitute and dying during the few hours exhausted nature has left it to linger out the miserable remnant of life.

From my own knowledge of Native patients, and the opinions of very many members of the Native community with whom I have consulted on this occasion, I am satisfied that nothing but disappointment would result to all parties from the adoption of such a measure, which although apparently economical in one sense, would on the other prove a most useless expenditure of Funds, in the obtaining of which so much difficulty has been experienced. I do therefore earnestly hope, that the Professors of the College will see the necessity of withdrawing this part of their plan, and adhere to the one first thought of, viz. having the Hospital in the neighbourhood of the College and as near to it as a proper site can be obtained.

In arranging the method of Hospital management we must not forget that our first duty is towards the patients and their accommodation, that the idea of making the Hospital a place of Clinical instruction is a secondary consideration, though no doubt a most important branch of our scheme. Under this view I should say that the ordinary Medical attendance of the Hospital ought to be vested in one or more Medical officers, elected by the subscribers, and totally unconnected with the College, that the plan followed in the Edinburgh Hospital (Infirmary) be adopted as the model here, viz. that there be ordinary wards for general patients, and Clinical wards for the use of the Professors, and that these be assigned to them for their exclusive use, and that they should not farther interfere with the management of the Institution; for if once the idea gets abroad into the minds of the Native population, that the Hospital is a part of the College establishment, and the source from whence subjects for dissection are to be supplied to it, its usefulness for the purposes of a General Hospital of relief to sick Natives is at an end.

One circumstance, to which I have before alluded, seems entirely to have escaped the minds of the Council,—the prejudice and feeling of caste, and which to make our Institution at all valuable in the eyes of the Natives, or sought after by them, must be most scrupulously attended to and provided for.

The attaching a Dispensary, which would at the same time serve as a receiving room for such sick as would remain in-patients, I think would be a most useful addition, where all the Medical officers might attend on stated days in rotation, and allot the patients to the different wards,—clinical and ordinary, on their respective

days, or this allotment might be made by the resident Surgeon of the Institution to whom might be given over the executive of the Dispensary. At the same time, it should be distinctly understood that no patient should be obliged to go to the Clinical wards, who did not wish to do so or retained there, if he preferred the other.

The minor details may be easily delayed for future adjustment,—they seem generally provided for in the report of the Council, and with a few alterations may be readily brought into operation.

On the other question to which our attention has been directed, viz. the superiority or otherwise of Hospitals over Dispensaries, my opinion remains unchanged. In cases where the Funds are limited to a certain extent in provincial towns and villages, I think it probable more may be done towards the prevention of disease and preservation of health generally, by Dispensaries, when once the inhabitants are instructed in the advantages of early application on the first appearance of illness; but in large cities where from the crowding together of the houses, and the consequent want of ventilation, the employment of the people in different manufactures and trades, exposure to all kinds of accidents, acute and sudden attacks of disease must necessarily occur both in greater number and severity, Dispensaries can afford but little or no relief as to prevention, and certainly none as to treatment, for it is only in the wards of a well provided and attended Hospital that this can be accomplished, either with benefit to the patients, or satisfaction to the practitioner, and I do not believe there is another city in the world of the same extent as to size, or of the same wealth as Calcutta, where there are not three or four Institutions of this description amply and liberally provided for by the voluntary contributions of the citizens themselves, without the support or assistance of Government in any way, but as it appears this cannot be done in this country without such assistance, I cannot for a moment put the two plans in comparison as far as Calcutta is concerned, and am fully convinced that without an Hospital, the good effected in the formation and maintenance of Dispensaries, will prove a most inadequate return for the money thus expended.

A. R. JACKSON.

Calcutta, 18th May, 1837.

No. 64.

Dr. A. R. Jackson,
25th May, 1837.

No. 65.

Modoosoodun Gupta,
29th May, 1837.

No. 65.

29th May, 1837.

MODOOSOODUN GUPTA, *examined.*

Q. 1. We believe you have some Medical practice amongst the Natives. Will you state your opinion whether there will be any prejudice on the part of the poor sick Natives to resort to a Hospital or Dispensary?—**A.** The poorer class of Natives have no prejudice against the Hospitals, but the better classes have. If a Hospital is to be established and the respectable Natives would encourage the poorer class to enter it by recommending those, who wait upon them daily, to go to it when sick, and explain to them the advantages of the Institution, I think the Hospital would succeed.

Q. 2. Do you think whether the establishment of a Central Hospital or Dispensaries with or without beds in different parts of the town, would afford the best relief to the poor?—**A.** I think that Dispensaries with beds would afford the best relief (subsequently added), to the greatest number of men, if the premises of the intended Dispensaries are well built, their management is properly secured, and the patients are regularly attended by skilful medical officers daily at proper times.

Q. 3. Why do you think so?—**A.** Because there are objections on the part of persons of high caste, though poor to stay in a Hospital. They would go to Dispensaries to get medicines, and those who would have no objection might remain there.

Q. 4. Do you think many of such caste would remain in a Dispensary?—**A.** Many will, if they find regulations of the Dispensary good and the attendants are of good caste.

Q. 5. Do you think the cases of fever could be as well treated at a Dispensary as at a Hospital?—**A.** That will depend upon the physician.

Q. 6. Would it be more or less convenient, the buildings of a Dispensary not being so good as those of a Central Hospital?—**A.** The Native poor would not mind that,—there is no doubt that they would go to the Dispensary.

Q. 7. Do you not think that a pukka building well raised is more conducive to the cure of a patient?—**A.** Certainly, the buildings of the proposed Dispensaries must of course be built better than the ordinary homesteads of the poor.

Q. 8. Have you heard that there is a proposition on the part of the Council of the Medical College to unite the proposed Hospital with that Institution?—**A.** Yes, I have heard it.

Q. 9. What is your opinion as to the feelings of the Natives on that subject?—*A.* The Hindus of good caste would not go to any Hospital whether it be established in the compound of the Medical College or out of it, unless the wealthy and respectable Natives persuade them to do so.

No. 65.
—
MookesoodundGupta,
29th May, 1837.

Q. 10. Do you think then that uniting the Hospital with the College would prevent good caste people from going?—*A.* Those that would have no objection to go to a Hospital would in such case only object to the dissecting room, and they would perhaps think that the Institution was intended for the benefit of the pupils rather than the patients. This is however merely my own opinion, and I do not know that such objections will be raised by the patients.

Q. 11. If in case of the union the Professors of the College were to visit the patients with their pupils for the purpose of giving Clinical lectures, would that be objectionable?—*A.* If the students were to go to the bed-sides in small numbers, say four or five at a time, there would be no objection, but if many went, the patients would think it was for the students' rather than their benefit.

Q. 12. We are not speaking of the rich. They must find their own medicine and physician—hospitals are intended for the poor,—do you think the union of the proposed Hospital with the College would be desirable for the benefit of the poor?—*A.* It is absolutely necessary—(subsequently added,) it is highly desirable that the Hospital should be connected with the College in order that the patients may have the benefit of being constantly visited by the Professors of the College.

Q. 13. For what reason? Suppose the plan of the union is adopted do you mean to say that it would be desirable for the sick poor, or do you think there would be a prejudice against it which would make them shun the Hospital?—*A.* Those that have no prejudice to go to a Hospital, will not think any thing about the union, and if the Professors attend to the sick at proper times, and no more than four or five of the students accompany them, then there will be no objection—(subsequently added), by this I mean that four or five students should attend the patients of high castes, while one hundred of them may visit a patient of an inferior caste at a time, as they have no such feelings, which the higher classes have.

Q. 14. Then would those who are prejudiced against Hospitals, be more prejudiced against the proposed Hospital if it is united with the Medical College?—*A.* If the higher classes persuade the poor they would make no objection.

Q. 15. You think then that the opinion of a prejudice against the union is a mistake?—*A.* If there is a wall to divide the two Institutions and a proper attendance is given on the sick, as I have before mentioned, there will be no objection.

Q. 16. What is the most unhealthy season of the year?—*A.* From August to November.

Q. 17. Under what complaints do the people suffer during those months?—*A.* Intermittent, remittent and bilious fevers, and dysentery and cholera.

No. C5.
 Mohd. GoolamGupta,
 23th May, 1857.

Q. 18. What number of people do you suppose suffer from those diseases at that season?—A. About five hundred in each Thanna, including Bengalee, Mahomedans, Up-country people, and East Indians.

Q. 19. That will be upwards of 18,000 people?—A. Yes. But in some Thannas there are less, in others more, but the average will amount to the number stated above.

Q. 20. How many of them are severely affected?—A. The greater part.

Q. 21. Do you not overstate the number?—A. No, although the number appears large, the population of the native part of the town is great, even in poor families, there are twenty-five inmates in each house; I mean the total number in those four months.

Q. 22. How long do you suppose the fever usually lasts?—A. Sixteen to twenty days.

Q. 23. And for that time are they confined to bed and unable to work?—A. Yes.

Q. 24. Do the greater part recover and are able to work or do they remain sick for life?—A. The greater part recover and are able to work—some continue sick for life.

Q. 25. What do you think the best mode of affording relief to those eighteen thousand?—A. Of the number I have mentioned about one-fifth might without inconvenience purchase their own medicine. The remainder could not be accommodated in a Hospital. Dispensaries attended by qualified Natives, and supplied by beds for those who should wish to stay, would afford general relief. I would have one Dispensary in each Thanna or two Thannas, and one hundred beds in each Dispensary. I do not mean to say that the one hundred beds would be always full.

Q. 26. What relief do these people get now?—A. They purchase native medicine (Pauchun) and employ quack doctors (natives.)

Q. 27. What proportion of the sick dies?—A. Seventy or eighty out of the five hundred I have mentioned.

Q. 28. Do any of the Native Doctors who practise in Calcutta, understand anatomy or English system of treatment of diseases?—A. Not one of them.

Q. 29. But are there none amongst the Natives or East Indians who understand the European system of medicine and treatment?—A. There are about twenty-five East Indians and fifty Hindus and Mahomedans, who know the European system of medicine and treatment, (subsequently added,) who are little acquainted with European system of medicine and treatment. They are unable to prescribe, but they are good compounders.

Q. 30. Do those Hindus and Mahomedans know the English names of medicines?—A. Very well.

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MoodosoodunGupta,
29th May, 1837.

Q. 31. Where were they educated?—A. In the late Medical Institution under Dr. Tytler.

Q. 32. Are they not employed by Government?—A. Many of them are.

Q. 33. Are you employed by any respectable Native family as Medical adviser, and do you make any money by your practice?—A. Yes, by several—Hul-lodhur Mullic, Rangopaul Ghose, Kinnoo Roy and Singhee family. I am also employed by Bissonoth Motelall, but he employs an European Doctor besides. I get from twenty-five to one hundred rupees per annum from each of these families.

Q. 34. Do you ever attend at child-birth in the Hindu families and generally on women?—A. I do not attend at the child-birth, that is in the midwifery cases; but I attend on women if they are sick after child-birth and generally.

Q. 35. If you have to offer any suggestions on the subject of our enquiry, and would wish to put them on paper we shall be very glad to receive them?—A. I will put my sentiments more fully on paper for being submitted to the Committee.

No. 66.

29th May, 1837.

No. 66.

David Hare, Esq.
29th May, 1837.

DAVID HARE, Esq. *examined.*

Q. 1. You know as much of the natives, as any European, what do you think the best means of relieving the poor sick natives. Would a central Hospital or Dispensaries in different parts of the Town afford greater relief?—A. I think an Hospital is better than Dispensaries, because the latter cannot get proper medical attendance although the Dispensaries will be very useful in distributing medicines, in connection with it. I should prefer an Hospital.

Q. 2. What do you think of the plan of the union of the proposed Hospital with the Medical College?—A. I think it would be advantageous to the Medical College, and I think also very advantageous to the Hospital. I feel thoroughly convinced that the patients would be much better attended to than in any other Hospital that could be established in this country without a very large expenditure to secure the regular attendance of Medical gentlemen of experience.

Q. 3. What is your opinion as to the number of patients who would attend the Hospital. Dr. Goodeve estimates it at two hundred?—A. I think Dr. Goodeve's

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David Hare, Esq.
29th May, 1837.

estimate correct, there would not be more until the manner in which the Hospital is conducted, is fully understood by the natives in general, when I suppose there will be a large increase.

Q. 4. Then would not Dispensaries be preferable, as they would afford relief to a greater number?—A. There should also be few Dispensaries in addition to the Hospital.

Q. 5. If there is no fund to establish both, which is the best?—A. It would be impossible to see the sick people at their own Houses or to get qualified persons to attend numerous Dispensaries. They would only be neglected.

Q. 6. You do not think the union of the Hospital with the College would alarm the patients?—A. In my opinion the situation of the Medical College is an excellent one for the Hospital, and I think the natives would have no objection to their being adjacent to each other, provided they are properly separated and due attention paid to the customs and prejudices of the natives, without which I am confident no Hospital will succeed.

Q. 7. Would the natives leave their homes willingly to go to the Hospital?—A. Many of them would I think, and the removal of poor natives from their own houses to more comfortable places is of great importance to the recovery of their health.

Q. 8. But a Hospital would not relieve so many as the Dispensaries would?—A. Certainly not so many, but it will relieve more effectually those who come and in a short time the students of the Medical College will be able to attend the Dispensaries, and the patients at their own houses. I think the Dispensaries would afford more immediate relief if attended properly; but I do not believe the medical men would attend to them.

Q. 9. If you have any suggestions to offer upon this subject perhaps you will have the goodness to put them on paper and send it to us?—A. I will do so.

No. 67.

1st June, 1837.

No. 67.

Dr. William Graham,
1st June, 1837.

DR. WILLIAM GRAHAM, *examined*.

Q. 1. We believe you attend professionally many of the Natives both in town and suburbs?—*A.* Yes, many, as both my Native friends here could testify.

Q. 2. But you attend principally on the rich?—*A.* Both—rich and poor—whenever required by the latter I have never refused to attend.

Q. 3. What are the prevailing diseases amongst the Natives?—*A.* The prevailing diseases are cholera, bowel complaints, and fever.

Q. 4. What season of the year is most unhealthy?—*A.* After the rains; during the rainy months I consider that Calcutta is particularly healthy; sickness begins in September and October.

Q. 5. With what description of fever are the Natives generally attacked?—*A.* The Natives are subject to the same description of fever as Europeans; from August to November, there is much fever.

Q. 6. One of the Native Medical practitioners, named Mudoosoodun Goopta, estimates that upwards of 18,000 persons suffer from diseases at the season you have mentioned: do you agree to his estimate?—*A.* I think it impossible to arrive at any accurate conclusion. I should say that the mortality in fever cases is small, from my own experience. In these months I have in the Tagores' family, taking the average of the last 16 years, 20 to 30 cases of fever in a year.

Q. 7. What disease do you consider most destructive to the Natives?—*A.* I regard cholera as the most appalling disease amongst the Natives.

Q. 8. What do you consider the best mode of relieving the sickness of the poorer classes of Natives?—*A.* I should consider the establishment of Dispensaries as the most efficient and humane. I think no other assistance of much avail.

Q. 9. What number of Dispensaries do you think requisite?—*A.* I think one Dispensary to two Thannahs would be sufficient (37 Thannahs.)

Q. 10. Do you mean Dispensaries with or without beds?—*A.* I mean with a receiving ward, as nearly as possible, resembling their own houses.

Q. 11. Have you any calculation of the expense of such Dispensaries?—*A.* None in particular; but it must be on an extensive scale. There must be an

No. 67.

Dr. William Graham,
1st June, 1837.

European apothecary, a Hindoo and Mussulman doctor, and a Medical superintendent. I think most of the Medical men in Calcutta would give their services gratuitously. I think there would be no want of practitioners.

Q. 12. Do you think this a better mode of relieving the poor than a Hospital?—A. I entertain no doubt—I speak with confidence having been Assistant Garrison Surgeon at Fort William, I have seen when life might have been preserved, death occasioned by removal. Distance and exposure are great objections. In the Fort every assistance was given to remove them. In the native town, I look upon the removal as impossible.

Q. 13. Then you consider Dispensaries the best for the relief of the sick poor?—A. Undoubtedly.

Q. 14. What buildings would you think sufficient in a Dispensary?—A. I do not think puckah buildings necessary, mud walled and tile roofed huts would be sufficient.

Q. 15. Do you think that the Natives would object to going to a Hospital?—A. Yes, decidedly—separation from their families alone would prevent them from going to a Hospital.

Q. 16. You think their feelings in favor of Dispensaries?—A. I have questioned many; they all prefer Dispensaries.

Q. 17. Do you see any objection to the union of the Fever Hospital and Medical College?—A. If humanity is thrown overboard, I do not regard the situation as particularly favorable.

Q. 18. What do you mean by the expression of “if humanity is thrown overboard?”—A. The establishment near the College would deprive thousands of its benefit. If both are established good and well.

Q. 19. Can you suggest anything else on the subject under consideration?—A. To point out the advantages of Dispensaries I was looking over the report of 1818-19, when Cholera prevailed. The number of cases was about fifty or sixty thousand, and the mortality six per cent. It was remarked that no case recovered where medicine was not given,—taking the disease early, the treatment was successful,—Dr. Jameson’s report contains these particulars. The Native Doctors were under European superintendence. One or two native gentlemen have authorised me to say that they will give ground for Dispensaries.

Q. 20. Who are they?—A. The Ghosaul family at Kidderpore and Bissonauth Muttvloff in Calcutta.

No. 68.

1st June, 1837.

No. 68.

Dr. C. C. Egerton,
1st June, 1837.

Dr. C. C. EGERTON, *examined.*

Q. 1. Have you much practice among natives?—*A.* Yes; the Eye Infirmary is filled with natives.

Q. 2. What number do you see daily?—*A.* The return to-day is 81 in-doors, and about 20 out-doors, each out-door patient takes three days medicine. We have a surgery in which the medicines are made up and operations performed. Beds are offered to bad cases, if refused, they attend as out-patients.

Q. 3. Have you considered the question of Dispensaries and Hospital as to affording the best relief to poor sick natives?—*A.* I do not see the distinction between a Hospital and a Dispensary with beds. The advantage of a single Hospital is the superintendence of the regulars of the profession. The books are regular and I could mention a singular occurrence. I saw evidence making a total of 18,000. One Dispensary alone cures 74,000. The advantage of Hospitals is that no irregular returns of this kind exist. Supposing a patient is seized with fever on Monday he is seen by the Apothecary at the Dispensary, and every dose given is entered as a fresh case. If a return of great number is wished, it can be had at the Dispensaries. I am anxious only about one set of people—the pupils of the Medical College. I take an intense interest in the success of the College, I consider that the pupils can only be made Surgeons by following our example. From seeing patients we go to the anatomical theatre and the dissecting room. We spend six or seven years of our lives in this, the natives must do the same, attending Dispensaries will do them only harm. The pupils would have no means of learning the nature of diseases.

Q. 4. We are at present only considering the object of affording relief to the poor sick natives. Would Dispensaries with beds relieve the poor effectually?—*A.* Yes, if properly superintended.

Q. 5. Are Dispensaries or Hospital most effectual?—*A.* I think a number of small Hospitals, well constructed, would be more effectual.

Q. 6. Have you means of supplying adequate European attendance to a number of Dispensaries?—*A.* No, certainly not. If it is wished to ascertain the use of Dispensaries at present in operation call for the returns.

No. 69.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

No. 69.

To W. C. HURRY, Esq.

Secretary Municipal Committee.

SIR,

In accordance with the wish expressed in your letter of the 28th ultimo, that the Committee of the Trade Association should furnish your Committee with their suggestions, or a plan embracing the better regulation of the Municipal affairs of Calcutta, I am authorized to state their unanimous opinion, that the present method of assessment and disbursement by Government of the Municipal Funds, cannot but be unsatisfactory to the assessed, so long as they have no voice in the election of the public officers who control the levying and the expenditure of those funds—especially intended for the comfort and the safety of the inhabitants and the salubrity of the City of Calcutta.

With a view to placing the Municipal affairs of Calcutta on a popular and satisfactory footing, the Committee of the Trade Association beg respectfully to suggest—

1. That the Court of Quarter Sessions, be called into active operation as a Court of Appeal, as well as for sanctioning the levying of the Assessment and the controlling of all Municipal affairs.
2. That the Court consist of the Chief Magistrate as Chairman, and of all gentlemen holding His Majesty's Commission of the Peace as Members.
3. That the Court of Requests be considered as a Municipal Court and its Commissioners elected by the householders annually, to be eligible for re-election.
4. That the Police of the city be entrusted to the Chief Magistrate, four Police Magistrates, and a Superintendent, as at present, but to be elected annually by the householders, and to be eligible for re-election.
5. That the Conservancy of the city be entrusted to four Commissioners, to be similarly elected, with magisterial powers and summary jurisdiction in all matters relating to Conservancy affairs, subject to appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions.
6. That the Assessment Funds, the Abkaree, the Lottery Fund, the surplus fines levied at the Police and Court of Requests, and any other local and Municipal Funds, be placed under the management of the Police and Conservancy Departments through the medium of a town receiver or treasurer, subject only to the control of His Majesty's Justices in Court of Quarter Session assembled.
7. That a Charter of incorporation be granted to the inhabitants of Calcutta empowering them to elect their own Magistrates, Commissioners, Deputies and Assistants.

8. That the city be divided into four divisions, subdivided into wards; each division having an Alderman, (or Honorary Magistrate) a Police Magistrate, a Conservancy Commissioner, a Deputy Alderman and an Assistant Commissioner, with suitable establishments.

9. The Police Magistrates and the Conservancy Commissioners to be paid,—the Aldermen, Deputies and Assistants to be honorary.

10. The election of the Aldermen, Police Magistrates and Conservancy Commissioners, to be submitted for approval to the Governor General in Council, who should possess a veto; which if exercised, a new election should take place.

11. The above named officers to be elected by householders, paying a monthly rent of Company's Rupees or upwards, or living in houses, their own property, of equal value.

12. That the Suburbs of Calcutta, from the lowest house in Garden Reach, to the highest house at Cossipore, two or three (or more) miles inland inclusive, be formed either into a separate corporation—or be joined to Calcutta, by extending the boundaries. Garden Reach, Allipore, Entally and Cossipore, might each form a division, as in Calcutta, with Aldermen, Magistrates, Commissioners, and, if necessary, Deputies and Assistants as in the city. The Suburbs, to be subject, of course, to Assessment, which would cover the Conservancy and nightly watch; but it would be necessary for the Government to grant allowances, to the Magistrates, if they were appointed and paid like the City Magistrates, but on lower salaries, say 500 or 600 per mensem.

If a plan founded on the above suggestions should be recommended by the Municipal Committee and approved by Government, the Committee of the Trade Association are prepared to enter more particularly into detail, as the subject has been frequently under their consideration; but they are not desirous, at present, to obtrude further on the attention of the Municipal Committee, nor until they are called upon to do so.

The Committee of the Trade Association beg to express their conviction that no difficulty would be found in inducing inhabitants, of the middling class of society for whom alone they speak, to exercise the liberties conferred on them of choosing their own Magistrates, Commissioners, &c. and of aspiring to such of the offices, whether honorary or paid, as they might be deemed eligible to fill.

I am requested to offer, personally, any further explanations of the sentiments of the Committee of the Trade Association, of which I am ex-officio Chairman, and to state that should evidence be further required, I can submit the names of persons qualified to afford the information desired.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. SCOTT THOMSON,

Master, Calcutta Trade Association.

Calcutta, 10th May, 1837.

No. 69. A.

R S. Thomson, Esq.

No. 69. A.

WM. COBB HURRY, Esq.

Secretary Municipal Committee.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Municipal Committee, the details of a plan for the Municipal Government of Calcutta, in furtherance of the suggestions respectfully submitted by a Committee of the Trade Association a short time ago.

That a change in the present system would be considered salutary, and that the public generally would support any plan which was grounded on popular election and gave the inhabitants an interest in the appropriation of the City funds, I am fully convinced from the sentiments expressed by the Members of the Trade Association and others.

The following resolution unanimously carried at a full meeting of that body gives assurance of their willingness to perform any duties that may be required of them, or to assist in carrying into effect any measures that Government may adopt for the improvement and advantage of the City.

“ *Resolved.*—“ That the Members of the Trade Association generally are
“ fully disposed to co-operate in the measures now proposed for the establishment
“ of a Municipal Government for the City of Calcutta, and they will individually
“ be ready to devote a reasonable portion of their time to the fulfilment of any
“ public duties which they may be called upon to perform.”

With regard to the eligibility of the electors being fixed at twenty rupees monthly rent, and upwards, the Trades Committee have been guided by the Assessment returns, also by the information they have received as to the qualifications and respectability of those parties generally so assessed. The annexed scale exhibits a list of about five thousand voters for the four Divisions of Calcutta, a number (it is presumed) amply sufficient for all the purposes of election and embracing all classes and creeds of the community.

That much good would result from dividing the Divisions of the City into Wards, and the appointment of Common Council-men over these Wards, the Trades Committee entertain no doubt; they are also of opinion that the utility of the Common Council-men would be much increased by investing them with the powers of special Constables; their constant residence in the Wards to which they belong would enable them to act with promptitude on emergency, in all cases where the preservation of the peace required their interference.

The Trades Committee have refrained from offering any opinion in the suggestions now humbly submitted for a Municipal Government, as to whether any alteration in the Police establishment might not be beneficially introduced.

No. 69. A.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

It is not their wish to interfere with present incumbents should the Government feel disposed to adopt any change for the better regulation of the Municipal Funds, but they are convinced a very considerable saving would result from the inhabitants possessing a certain control over their disbursements as well as collection; that such items, for example as the "Town Hall" in place of being chargeable to the Government at an expense of 14,000 Rupees annually, ought, under proper management, to yield at least a considerable return.

The deficit in the annual revenue employed and collected for Judicial and Conservancy purposes as exhibited in Schedule (A) could not perhaps be avoided during the present incumbency, and it has therefore been respectfully suggested that Government should grant Lac of Rupees annually for five years to continue the efficiency requisite for these departments, during which period the Trades Committee are of opinion that the expenditure of the City could be brought within the limits of its income.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. SCOTT THOMSON,

Master, Trade Association.

Calcutta, 29th June, 1837.

Houses in	Rent below 20 Rupees per mo.	20 Rupees to 50.	50 Rupees to 100.	100 Rupees and upwards.
1st Division	5,675	972		85
2d Ditto	3,659	872	Particulars of each division not given, only the total.	172
3d Ditto	1,347	451		271
4th Ditto	1,425	376		239
	12,106	2,671	1,056	767

No. 69. B.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

No. 69 B.

From Trade Association.

IT IS RESPECTFULLY SUGGESTED—

1. That a Charter of Incorporation, in revival of the Charter granted by H. M. Geo. II. dated 8th January, 1753, be granted to the inhabitants of Calcutta, empowering them to govern and manage all Local and Municipal affairs of the City of Calcutta, in terms of the Charter.

2. That the inhabitants be authorized to elect annually as a Municipal Government,

1 Mayor or Chief Magistrate.

4 Aldermen (one for each Division.)

4 Deputies (Ditto.)

16 Councillors (one for each Ward or Sub-division.)

3. That to this body, to be denominated the Town Council, shall be referred the consideration of all Local Municipal affairs—with authority to hold Courts of Quarter Session, agreeably to the Original Charter granted to the City of Calcutta by His Majesty Geo. II. dated 8th January, 1753, as subsequently qualified by 13 and 14 Geo. III. and 9th Geo. IV.

4. That the Court of Quarter Sessions shall consist of the Mayor or Chief Magistrate, the Aldermen, the Magistrates of Police and such other Gentlemen as hold His Majesty's Commission of the Peace.

5. That this Court, as authorized by the above recited Acts of Parliament, do sanction the levying of the City Assessment for watching and warding and cleansing and repairing the streets, at such rate as they may deem necessary and fitting and agreeably to the Act 33 Geo. III. and also do hear appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates of Police, also appeals from the decisions of the Court of Requests, and from all other Local Courts or bodies authorized to appeal thereto.

6. That the Local Funds specified in Schedule A be placed at the disposal of this Court—who shall appoint a Treasurer or City Receiver—who may be the Accountant General or Sub-Treasurer, if deemed advisable by Government and this Court—otherwise such person or persons as this Court may appoint, upon suitable salary, and with sufficient securities.

7. That the Court of Requests as at present constituted be considered a Municipal Court and its decisions subject to revision by appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

8. That a Board of Conservancy be established to consist of four Commissioners, *i. e.* one for each division of the City. The Commissioners to have Magisterial powers, with summary jurisdiction in all matters relating to Conservancy affairs—subject to appeal to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

9. That the Police of the City, as at present, be intrusted to a Chief Magistrate, and four Magistrates—*i. e.* one for each division of the City, with the aid of a Superintendent and suitable establishment.

No. 69. B.
R. S. Thomson, Esq.

10. That the Suburbs of Calcutta from the lowest house in Garden Reach to the highest house at Cossipore, two or three (or more) miles inland inclusive, be formed either into a separate corporation—or be joined to Calcutta, by extending the boundaries. Garden Reach, Allipore, Entally and Cossipore, might each form a division, as in Calcutta, with Aldermen, Police Magistrates, Commissioners, and Deputies as in the City. The Suburbs to be subject, of course, to Assessment, which would cover the Conservancy and nightly watch; but it would be necessary for the Government to grant allowances to the Magistrates, if they were appointed and paid like the City Magistrates, but on lower salaries, say 500 or 600 per mensem.

RECAPITULATION.

The business of the City will thus be managed in five Principal Courts.

1. The Town Council, the functions of which will be principally deliberative; and in which all alterations, improvements and suggestions, in Municipal affairs, will be primarily considered.

2. The Court of Quarter Sessions, as Judicial Court of Appeal, in which the Mayor or Chief Magistrate will preside.

3. The Court for the Recovery of Small Debts, in which three Commissioners divide the duties between them.

4. The Board of Conservancy, consisting of four Commissioners, subject to the Town Council.

5. The Police Office, with a Chief Magistrate and four Magistrates of Divisions.

An appeal lying from the three latter to the Court of General Quarter Sessions.

The City being divided into four divisions and each division into four (more or less) Wards—besides the Mayor, the Chief Magistrate of Police and the Chief Commissioner of Conservancy—there will be to each division an Alderman, a Police Magistrate, a Conservancy Commissioner and a Deputy Alderman, with establishments as specified in Schedule B; also for each ward of each division, a common Councillor who will act in his ward, as will the Deputy in his division, in all elections and in the conservation of the peace—in aid of the Alderman, the Police Magistrate and the Conservancy Commissioner.

It is suggested that the Mayor or Chief Magistrate, the Aldermen and the Commissioners of Conservancy and of the Court of Requests, as well as the Police Magistrates, should be Justices of the Peace. That the Deputies of the divisions be sworn in as Chief Constables thereof and the Councillors be all constituted special Constables—but, of course, to be required to act only on emergent occasions.

That the Petty Court Jail, the House of Correction and all lock-up houses be, as at present, under the Chief Magistrate. The Mayor and Aldermen being

No. 60, B.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

at all times at liberty, and periodically required, to visit the same and report upon their state to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

That there be in each division of the Town, an office in which the business of the division and its wards shall be transacted. The Alderman of the division to be the head thereof, with the assistance of his Deputy and a Chief Clerk, on such salary as may be deemed sufficient for the duties to be performed. The Conservancy business of the division to be also transacted in this office and generally all ward or division meetings, held therein.

If the Government of Bengal place at the disposal of the Town Council, the funds specified in Schedule A, with a grant of one lakh of rupees per annum for five years the Council will undertake to meet all the expenses specified in that Schedule and provide ways and means (if empowered) to supply any deficit, without calling on the Government, or abolishing any existing establishments, except such as may be found useless—without affecting the incomes of incumbents, whose salaries shall remain as at present. Provided always that performance of duties may be assigned to sinecurists, and that all persons employed in subordinate situations shall, as at present, be liable to dismissal for misconduct.

ELECTIONS.

The election of all Officers, viz. Mayor, Aldermen, Magistrates, Commissioners, Deputies of Divisions and Councillors for Wards should, it is considered, on principle, be annual, by ballot. If this be objected to, then it is suggested that the Mayor, Aldermen, Deputies and Councillors only be so elected, being eligible for re-election; while the Police Magistrates and paid Commissioners be appointed for life, subject to removal by petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions, in certain cases to be specified.

The electors to consist of all householders, of whatever color or religion, occupying houses paying a rent of 20 rupees per mensem, or living in houses their own property or the property of other persons, of equal value, as per Assessment returns.

The qualification for Tenants to be the production of a Landlord's or Agent's receipt for rent, for a period of at least three months next preceding the date of the election—and not more than two months in arrear. Persons residing in their own houses, or by permission in houses of others, to prove this fact before the Alderman of the Ward or his Deputy or other appointed Assessor.

The mode of election to be as follows :

1. A registered list of voters to be supplied by the Commissioner of the division and to be kept in the office of the Alderman of the division, and on an appointed day all persons included in that list to be at liberty to vote in person for any candidate who may have intimated his intention to stand a ballot for the vacant, or about to be vacated, office. The votes to be examined by Scrutineers, and publicly declared and recorded at the hour fixed for closing the ballot. Proxies not to be admitted.

2. The time and place of ballot, and the names of candidates, to be publicly announced at least ten days prior to the day of election.

CITY OF CALCUTTA.

SCHEDULE A.

No. 60. B.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

Annual Income and Expenditure.

	<i>Income.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
Court of Requests,	55,878	80,417
Assessment (A),	2,24,500	2,42,638
Police (B),	0	3,21,728
Abkarree,	1,46,700	10,100
European Distilleries,	22,000	12,900
Lotteries,	39,600	20,994
Town Hall,	0	13,729
Chowringhee Plain,	5,000	0
Fees, Fines and Escheats, &c.,	16,800	0
Convict Labor,	16,404	13,313
Total	5,26,882	7,15,819

(A) Conservancy (Assessment)—

Establishment,	43,856
Contingent,	39,659
Repairing Roads,	49,615
Cleaning,	73,891
Repairing Bridges and Drains,	8,317
Charges of Collection <i>of the Corporation</i> ,	27,300
	<u>2,42,638</u>

(B) Judicial (Police)—

Magistrates' Salaries,	1,00,000
Different Establishments,	41,175
Contingent,	28,512
Thannadaree,	1,43,899
Rent, &c. &c.,	8,142
	<u>3,21,728</u>

SCHEDULE B.

Additional Division Expenses.

4 Conservancy Commissioners,	400	1,600
4 Chief Clerks,	150	600
4 Houses for Office,	150	600
4 Writers, &c.,	50	200

Per Month,3,000

No. 69. B.

R. S. Thomson, Esq.

SCHEDULE C.

Town Council Expenses.

A Secretary,	300
A Clerk,	100
Writers, Stationery and Petty Expense,.....	100
	<hr/>
Per Month,	500

A Treasurer (if required) commission one per cent.

N. B. The expenses of all existing establishments to be as at present, or subject to the recommendations of the Municipal Committee.

No. 70.

James Young, Esq.

27th July, 1837.

No. 70.

27th July, 1837.

JAMES YOUNG, Esq. a Member of the Committee, examined.

Q. 1. You hold the office of the Clerk of the Peace we believe?—A. Yes.

Q. 2. How long have you held it?—A. Nineteen months.

Q. 3. Who was your predecessor?—A. Mr. Smoult.

Q. 4. How long did he hold the office?—A. A number of years. I think 14 or 15 years.

Q. 5. What is the salary of the Clerk of the Peace and whether the charge is defrayed from the local fund?—A. The salary of the Clerk of the Peace as well as his establishment, are paid direct by Government and do not form any part of the Police charges. The salary is two hundred and fifty Sicca Rupees per month, equal to Company's Rupees 266 10 8, and before my time the establishment was—

1 Writer,	104	8	0
1 Mollah,	5	3	7
1 Brahmin,	5	3	7
3 Peons,	12	8	8
1 Dustory,	5	3	7
Fixed allowance for Stationery,.....	20	14	5
Crier,	33	5	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	186	15	2

Total Company's Rupees 454 9 10

When I came into office I reduced the whole establishment, with the exception of Company's Rupees 104-8, which I considered sufficient for the pay of one writer

and one peon, as well as for providing Stationery, &c. This reduction has effected a saving of Company's Rupees 82-7-2 per month, or about a Thousand Rupees a year, consequently the present salary and establishment amount to Company's Rupees 371-2-8 only.

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Q. 6. Have you any allowance for house or office rent?—A. No; I have built up a room at my own residence as my office and purchased furniture, record presses, &c. for it. There were no proper places for the records, which were in great disorder.

Q. 7. What is the average amount of fees received by the Clerk of the Peace besides salary?—A. In seven years there have been 7,030 petitions for reduction of Assessment on Houses (of which class alone I have taken any account) forming an average :

Annually, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,004
Quarterly, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	251
Monthly, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83½

One Sicca Rupee is authorized by the Bench of Magistrates to be levied on every such petition (*copy of the proceedings of the Bench of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in Sessions in 1806, fixing the table of fees for the various business in the Clerk of the Peace's Office submitted.*) I reduced this, on being appointed, to one Company's Rupee, so the total value of the office to me may be taken at about 350 Company's Rupees per month, supposing these fees to average as heretofore.

Q. 8. What are your duties?—A. My office is mainly one of record for the proceedings, accounts and vouchers of the Justices in Quarter Sessions now confined almost entirely to fixing and altering the rates of Assessment under the Act of Parliament and hearing appeals against the Assessors or Collector. The Chief Magistrate submits through me all the accounts of Disbursements prepared by the Police Accountant, with all the vouchers for audit, which I forward to the Civil Auditor who after examination and audit returns them to me, I then send them back to the Police Accountant to examine and pass to credit, or if any of the charges are objected to, those must be discussed by the Bench and Auditor, which however is seldom the case. The accounts and vouchers are then finally lodged with me and become office records. In like manner I receive and record the Collector's Accounts. The Sessions formerly used to be held once a year; but of late years have assembled quarterly, and I attend at the opening and closing of each Sessions. I receive and record during the fortnight after opening each Sessions all appeals or applications for abatement of Assessment, communicate their contents to the Assessors, in order that they may, if necessary, examine disputed premises, and be prepared to defend their Assessments, &c., at the sitting of the Magistrates for hearing these petitions which takes place every Saturday till all are decided. I give numbered receipts for each registered and docketed petition and furnish information to the petitioners when to attend, and in case of their neglecting to attend, of the decision which the Magistrates have come to on these petitions, if such information is sought by absent petitioners—each of the Assessors delivers to me at each Sessions for my office sets in dupli-

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cate of his two Books of Assessments for the two Divisions of which he has charge, in all eight books, one copy of each book approved, signed and sealed by the Magistrates remains in my office as a record, and the other copy being authenticated by me is forwarded to the Collector of Assessment for his guidance. Two sets of alteration books are delivered in by the Assessors at the end of each Sessions after the decision of the Bench on the appeals of the quarter, which are compared with the original Assessment Books and alteration therein inscribed, until corrections and alterations become so enormous as to require new Assessment Book to be made out. The entire proceedings of each Quarter Sessions are recorded in a voluminous document of 6 or 8 skins of parchment which contains particulars of every reduction in Assessment granted in appeal during the Quarter, which document is signed and sealed in my presence by the Magistrates present at Sessions and becomes a record of the office.

Q. 9. What portion of your time is occupied in performing these duties? --

A. Formerly there was but one General Session, latterly the Sessions have been increased to four; at the opening and closing of each of which I always attend, besides occasionally when required on petition days, now it is proposed by the majority of the Magistrates, though considered irregular by others, to open a new and close the old Session on the same day which will reduce the number to four. But the office is in fact essentially one of mere registering and recording and requires very little personal attendance out of doors on my part, who am in truth little more than a Registrar or Record-keeper.

No. 71.

27th July, 1837.

No. 71.

C. B. Greenlaw, Esq.
27th July, 1837.C. B. GREENLAW, Esq. *examined*.

Q. 1. How long have you held the office of Coroner?—A. Since 1821.

Q. 2. Who was your predecessor?—A. Mr. Dent.

Q. 3. How long did he hold the office?—A. I think five or six years.

Q. 4. Had he any other occupation?—A. I do not know.

Q. 5. What is the average number of Inquests held during the year?—A. I cannot now speak by average; but the maximum has not exceeded 24 cases in a year.

Q. 6. Will you give us a return of all the cases brought before you for a number of years?—A. I will do so.

Q. 7. What is your Salary?—A. Three hundred Rupees per month, besides two hundred and fifty Rupees per month for house and office rent, and 176 per month for establishment, including stationery, printing, &c. and 24 to 30 Rupees per month allowed for conveyance allowance for which I keep two horses.

The house and office rent was added to the salary at my own application to enable me to have a house near the Police office for the convenience of the Jury.

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C. B. Greenlaw, Esq.
27th July, 1837.

Q. 8. Do you hold Inquests at your house?—A. Yes, the body being first inspected by the Jury, they adjourn to my house and the Inquest is held there.

Q. 9. How many persons are employed under you?—A. I will send you a return of the establishment.

Q. 10. What portion of your time is occupied in the discharge of the duties of Coroner?—A. I will also submit a memorandum of the time occupied.

Q. 11. Do you hold any other appointment?—A. Yes, I hold the appointment of the Secretary to the Marine Board. I took that office with the distinct understanding that the duties of Coroner are not to be interfered with, I held the appointment of Coroner previous to that of the Secretary to the Marine Board.

Q. 12. How long have you held the appointment of the Secretary to the Marine Board?—A. I was appointed Assistant Secretary in 1825 and Secretary in Feb. 1828.

Q. 13. What is your salary as Secretary to the Marine Board?—A. Twelve hundred Rupees per month, I had the same allowance when I was Assistant Secretary, viz. a salary of eight hundred Rupees per month as Assistant Secretary, and four hundred Rupees more for conducting some other Government business connected with the Burmese War.

Q. 14. Your salary is paid by Government and forms no part of the disbursements out of the Municipal Fund?—A. The Coroner's establishment is audited by the Civil Auditor and paid by Government; besides the establishment some contingent expenses are incurred as fees to Constables at 2 Rs. per day, &c.

Q. 15. Will you give us a statement of the whole disbursements of your Establishment?—A. I will do so.

Q. 16. Do you find any difficulty in obtaining a Jury?—A. No, not so much now. The difficulty of obtaining Juries diminished since East-Indians were included in the Jury list.

Q. 17. Did you ever summon Hindus and Mussulmans on the Juries?—A. I attempted to summon Hindus, but did not succeed. My summons are required to be served personally and I cannot so serve them at the time a Jury is wanted, as I could not get to them at their residences mentioned in the Jury list. I never summoned Mussulmans.

Q. 18. Then it would seem desirable that the Sheriff should be directed to ascertain and insert in the Jury list the places where the Natives are employed?—A. Decidedly so. I wish to observe that my duties as Coroner are not only holding Inquests but also receiving and recording notices of all deaths and casualties and granting at my discretion permissive Warrant to dispose of the body without an Inquest being held.

Q. 19. Will you give us a memorandum of all the duties you have to perform as Coroner?—A. I will give a list of those duties of the last five years.

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Q. 20. Do you hold Inquests on all deaths in Jail?—*A.* Inquests are not held in Jail in regular form; but only when from enquiry it appears necessary.

Q. 21. Do you remember having held an Inquest on the body of a prisoner in the late piracy case, who was supposed to have been poisoned?—*A.* I don't know the case alluded to, but I believe I held an Inquest on a person confined in Jail on a charge of piracy supposed to have been poisoned. (*Submits a copy of a Notice given by the Superintendent of Police on an occasion of sudden death.*) I have derived very great benefit and assistance from the present Police Establishment since the appointment of the Superintendent of Police, and the Thanadaree Establishment is much more trustworthy now, than formerly.

Q. 22. Who performs the duties of Coroner in your absence?—*A.* No person can perform the duties in my absence unless appointed and sworn by Government.

Q. 23. Is the Coroner appointed by Government?—*A.* My appointment is from Government and they have the power to appoint as many Coroners as they wish throughout Bengal, Behar and Orissa. I beg to observe that to pay the Coroner by fees would not be a good plan. It would lower the respectability of the office and it would induce him to hold useless Inquests.

Q. 24. But his Bills may be checked by Quarter Sessions. In England Coroners are paid by fees?—*A.* Yes—but no respectable person would undertake the duties on such terms in this Country.

Q. 25. And yet in England the office is eagerly canvassed for?—*A.* True, but there they have motives which do not operate here.

Q. 26. Do you ever perform the duties of the Sheriff?—*A.* Yes, occasionally, when the Sheriff is a party to the suit it is a rule of Court to direct process to the Coroner. I think there would be no objection to the remuneration by fees if the office is attached to some other office of respectability such as Police Magistrate.

Q. 27. Do you know any instance of a Coroner being Justice of the Peace in England?—*A.* No. In this country the great difficulty in getting Juries, is from the shortness of the time for disposing of the body. I think the view might be taken by the Superintendent of Police, Police Surgeon, and Coroner; but this must be done under a change of the law.

Q. 28. Would a smaller Jury diminish the present difficulty?—*A.* A smaller Jury say to the number of six would be easily collected. There is no difficulty except of time; when Juries are collected they execute the duty very willingly and never complain of protracted sittings. In the case of the late Mr. Barry the Jury sat ten days without complaint.

Q. 29. Do you furnish them with refreshments?—*A.* Yes with slight refreshment, bread and occasionally cheese with brandy and water at my own expense. I provide them also (with a view to expedition) with conveyance to the place of inspection. I keep two Carriages, a Landau and a Palkee Carriage, the latter in a great degree for their accommodation. A rupee is allowed by Government for conveyance when demanded by the Jurors.

No. 72.

31st August, 1837.

D. McFARLAN, Esq.

No 72.

D. McFarlan, Esq.
31st August, 1837.

A Memorandum by the Chief Magistrate on Taxation.

As a preliminary enquiry to the imposition of new taxes, it was imperative that the economical administration of the old should be clearly shewn.

The enquiries of your Committee consequent on this have obviously embraced a wide field. The Abkaree or Liquor Tax, the expenses of the Police which belong more especially to Government, and the expenses paid out of the Assessment, have passed under your able and searching enquiry. It will be seen, I presume, that the Abkaree may be made more productive, and the Government share of the Police expense may be considerably reduced. Some small reduction will doubtless be made in the Assessment charges, and though the aggregate cost of the whole Police machine will be considerably reduced, the part of the reduction that would fall to the share of the Assessment or the People's Tax will, I presume, be small.

For the purpose of ascertaining what sums the People should be called to pay it is obviously quite essential that they should know what will be paid for them. I conclude that the following estimate of the distribution of charges would be near the mark :

Government will pay.....	114,532
Town will pay	313,244

On the present scale the expense, particularly the Town's, would be 313,000. This the Assessment could not provide.

If the Abkaree is thrown into the fund, we should have a surplus: if it is not we should have a deficiency of Rupees 113,000.

I presume that if it were given to the Town the inhabitants would be required to find their own Magistrates and Establishments of every sort.

On referring to the series of printed papers published at various times by me, (see figured statement appended to my letter to Government of 1st December, 1833,*) the payments by Government under the head of Sitting Justices amount to Rupees 206,604: the receipts from Abkaree to Rupees 173,886.

* Vide page 12 of accompanying pamphlet.

If Government gave up the Abkaree and the above payments *also*, it is obvious that the Town with all practicable reductions would be but small gainers.

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31st August, 1837.

Let us presume however that Government will continue to discharge the expense immediately required for the due administration of justice: that is, about 200,000 or less, mentioned under the head Sitting Justice's Account, and would retain the Abkaree: then the Town would have to make good 3,20,000. Of this they have from the Assessment about 200,000, then 1,20,000 would have to be supplied to keep up the expenditure now incurred.

Who should supply this deficiency is not I hope a matter of question. Many there doubtless are who would be willing to ask the Government to pay all, and who sink all questions regarding the improvement of the public feeling of Towns in a desire to avoid trouble and increased taxation, but it is the duty of the Government to endeavour to lead the people into an healthier tone of feeling, so that they may scorn, like paupers, to accept of benefits they do not pay for, and may consider every improvement in Conservancy as their own, and in one word to have an "adequate local taxation and independent local management in the direction as in the burdens of which all who might be most interested should take their share."

Concluding therefore that the most important question for your Committee to consider is the means of raising adequate funds to carry on and improve the Conservancy, the watch and ward, and general Police of the Town, I will address myself to that question.

In my evidence given before your Committee on the I mentioned
that Calcutta might be divided into three Sections.

In regard to these different Sections I think that very different modes of treatment should prevail. In the Centre* Division we want good roads, good drainage and sewerage, good lighting and watering, and great improvements in the opening up of wide roads. In the other portions these matters are not only of less importance, but the means to meet the expence is wanting. By a return of the Assessors appended to this, it appears that nearly half of the whole Assessment of the Town is levied within this centre limit, though the space is not quarter of the Town. I would secure therefore for this division the whole of the House Assessment collected in it, and levy whatever was wanting for watering and lighting, first by additional Assessments not exceeding 2½ per cent. beyond what is now obtained.

In regard to the other divisions the only item they are likely to demand would be watering, and it may be the making pukka and covering over the main drains that traverse them. For them I would propose the draft appended to my printed letter to Government of the 5th February 1835* for watering certain streets or levy from these divisions by increase of assessment whatever was necessary for keeping them in the state in which they now are.

As the least objectionable mode of raising an additional fund I would propose a tax upon carriages, and perhaps horses, the proceeds of which should be applied to the maintenance and repair of existing roads and the construction of new ones. No tax can be fairer than this. Under it the poor who wear out but a small fraction,

if any of the roads, escape all payment, and the affluent pay no more than they enjoy the benefit of. A toll to make persons residing out of the limits of the town pay for a benefit enjoyed would be necessary.

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31st August, 1837.

This tax could I doubt not easily be made to produce 1,20,000 rupees. The expenditure upon the roads need never exceed 50 or 60,000. A fund would thus be left for the construction of new lines where most required.

I trust the Lotteries will be done away with as soon as their debt is paid or even sooner. I would not trust to them as a future source of income; in regard to them I fancy there is little difference of opinion. Gambling sanctioned by the State is not likely to stand long in the face of enlightened public opinion.

I know of no other feasible tax. An impost on shops has been suggested. Manifest evils are apparent in such a tax. Would Messrs. Hamilton and Co., the Jewellers, pay the same as the poor native grain seller? Tiretta Bazar is a great shop: it perhaps would pay no more than Mr. Twentyman the Jeweller. To make such a tax fair we must know the goods sold and their value which we could never learn and if we could, the labour of adjusting the tax would be infinite.

I have heard a proposal to take the tolls of Tolly's Nulla and the Circular canal, and apply them to purify the drains of the town. It seems quite plain that every farthing which we levy on the canals beyond what is sufficient to keep them in proper order and it may be to pay the interest of money laid out on their construction, should immediately be reduced. To raise a revenue by tolls is wrong, to apply that revenue to the ease and comfort of the wealthy inhabitants of Calcutta is worse. The staple transit of goods is wood and rice which are consumed by the poorest. Every rupee of canal money laid out upon our drains would be gathered from the labour of the poor, and it would unquestionably be given to gratify the wishes and desires of the rich not the poor. The charcoal of the rich comes from the westward and the little grain they eat from the Upper Provinces.

If the tolls are applied to conservancy purposes would not Bullya Ghaut, Tollygunje and other similar populous villages have to the full as good a claim as Calcutta? If distributed over so large a tract what would the benefit amount to?

The grant of the tolls by Government would trench upon the great principle which ought never to be lost sight of. The people of the town would not feel that it was their own money that was distributed and could not claim the management of it.

NOTE.—At Bombay they have a Tax called "Market Fees, on shops and stalls, on beating the Battakee (Tom Tom) or country music, and on the erection of wedding sheds and other places of public amusement." All of these look more like what some inferior officer would illegally exact than an impost sanctioned by Government.

NOTE.—At Bombay they have a long list of rates to be paid by the different kinds of shops: Europe shops, such I suppose as Moore, Hickey's pay 5 Rupees per quarter: Fowl sellers about 5 Annas. The heart burnings arising from a tax so unequally and capriciously adjusted, must, I think, be very great.

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31st August, 1837.

A tax on carriages and land tolls, and increase of house assessment, appear to be the sources from which the existing deficiency must be made up and additional funds provided, and I hope that with due economy in their administration they might be made to answer for all that the town actually demands.

What these demands are is the next important point. What is asked for in clamour and in ignorance of available means ought to be put on one side. The grand point is not what the citizens would like to have, but what they would pay for having. To ascertain this fully and effectually is hopeless at present. It can never be done till elective committees on a wide basis are formed, and I think they would soon be formed if Government were to take the initiative and impose a new tax.

I have heard it suggested that Government should carry into effect in the town of Calcutta every sort of improvement without regard to expense in order to shew to an Asiatic population what an European city is. This is surely a fanciful notion. The inhabitants of the other towns of India would not be much the better for this knowledge unless endowed with the privilege of having the same done for them, and if Calcutta is not able to command that power within herself, it is not likely that other towns would. They would thus have a notion made manifest to them at an enormous expense to Government, and in the mean time the Calcutta people, the subjects of this experiment, would become the spoilt children of Government thrown greatly back in their progress to free, vigorous and manly institutions.

It is proposed I see by one gentleman to make the elective heads of a neighbourhood Police officers and conservators. Any such plan would be a failure. The functions of committees, town councils, or whatever name they have should never extend beyond that of having full access to accounts of expenditure and the returns of crime and the election of executive officers. They should deal only with general results. They might as well be masons to construct their drains as Police officers to apprehend their thieves.

In their commencement, their functions should be limited as proposed in my printed letter of March 1st 1835.

(Signed) D. McFARLAN, *Chief Magistrate.*

Calcutta, Police Office, 31st August, 1837.

Statement of the amount of assessment of such premises of the City of Calcutta as are situated within the following boundaries, viz. on the North, Cotton Street and Machooa Bazar—South, Esplanade and Durrumtolla—East, College Street and Wellesley Street—West, Strand Road.

	<i>Valuation per Mensm.</i>			<i>Tax per Quarter.</i>		
2d Division Company's Rupees...	1,00,760	11	8	15,111	13	2
3d ditto.....	1,10,870	14	11	16,630	1	1
4th ditto	7,253	9	9	1,008	0	0
Total.....	2,18,885	4	4	32,749	14	3
Total of the whole Town.....	4,41,611	8	4	66,241	11	7

No. 73.

No. 73.

J. R. Martin, Esq.
17th December, 1837.

J. R. MARTIN, Esq.

NOTES

Written in consequence of a perusal of Mr. Secretary Mangles' Letter to the Chairman of the proposed Fever Hospital Committee.

1st. It appears to me, that the Committee stands pledged to the subscribers and the public to establish *an hospital* for the accommodation and cure of persons labouring under the more prevalent acute diseases of the place.

2d. That in setting this object before the public, and calling for subscriptions, the Governors of the Native Hospital in their address to the public dated in May 1835 again pledged themselves "not to encroach upon the constitution of the Native Hospital, but that the proposed institution is to be essentially a separate one both as regards its funds and the rules by which they are to be administered." This quotation will I trust satisfy the Committee on two points, viz. that the Committee stand pledged to establish a Fever Hospital, and also, that if they succeed, it shall be separate and distinct from the Native Surgical Hospital.

3d. On the subject of the difference in the nature of the relief afforded by the two kinds of institution,—an Hospital and a Dispensary—I beg to quote from my note to Mr. Mangles, of the 3d ultimo, wherein I have said that, "Without the aid of an Hospital in a city like this, fever and dysentery cannot be cured: every thing in it is necessary to save life; the regular visits of an European Doctor, aided by an intelligent establishment; its open airy wards and raised clean beds; its regulated diet and clothing, and its general cleanliness, these are all necessary. But in a Dispensary, which is only useful to keep men out of Hospital (no small matter in itself) the patient gets his dose of medicine and is cured; or if not, he returns to the very place where he caught his disease, to sleep on the damp ground, to get medicine by chance, and to have any diet or clothing the friends choose, together with the absence of all ventilation and cleanliness. In violent illness therefore, such management can be of little avail in arresting disease. Again, it is not, even in the most dangerous diseases, by medicine *alone* that a man's life is to be saved, but by the careful and continued watching of the operations of nature, and those of medicine, so as to determine when to give and withhold drugs. It results from this that Dispensaries take but a secondary or subordinate station, and cannot be compared in active relief to a well ventilated and regulated Hospital." Speaking as a medical man, and viewing the question as it affects the public health, I should feel that I conferred a greater benefit on humanity in one case of acute disease restored to health in an Hospital (where alone such cases can be treated) than by many scores of cases of doubtful relief afforded through the casual exhibition of doses of medicine at a Dispensary.

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J. R. Martin, Esq.

4th. On the subject of attaching a fever ward to each Dispensary, I shall only observe that such arrangement is not within the plan proposed to the public. I may, however, add that such rooms, unless the positions of the Dispensaries be altered, must prove defective in some of the most essential requisites for the proper treatment of disease: viz. freedom from crowding, openness, and freedom of ventilation; for without these, the best medical advice and medicine can be of little or no benefit; indeed, it is doubtful whether an Hospital in a crowded portion of the town would not be an evil in place of a relief to humanity, so paramount is an open and airy locality.

5th. I shall look forward with anxious but high expectation to the time when, as his Lordship points out, the services of well educated natives may be available for the purposes of Dispensaries, and for offices even of a higher order; indeed, it was one of the earliest advantages stated by me when I brought the subject first before the Governors of the Native Hospital. I stated as one of the advantages of a Fever Hospital that it is in such an institution "alone they" (the students) "can ever acquire the practical knowledge which can render them generally useful." Nothing like the benefit here spoken of can be derived, or is ever derived in Europe, through the attendance of a youthful student at a Dispensary: because the duties of a Dispensary require experience, and that, as I stated before, can alone be acquired in the close observation of treatment, an attention to clinical instruction, and an attentive perusal of the regular diaries of an Hospital: the Hospitals, both Medical and Surgical, are the great, and almost the only schools of practical medicine and surgery in Europe. We are officially called Surgeons; but we find, in Indian practice especially, that we are in reality Physicians. It is on our knowledge of the two grand divisions of tropical disease,—fever and dysentery, with their sequelæ,—that nine-tenths of our usefulness depends. All professional men will I think agree with me in this declaration, and that it is in an Hospital that we can alone, in the first instance, acquire this knowledge to be useful.

J. R. MARTIN.

Native Hospital, December 17, 1836.

No. 74.

S. NICOLSON, Esq.

No 74.

S. Nicolson, Esq.

NOTES

Written in consequence of a perusal of Mr. Secretary Mangles' Letter to the Chairman of the proposed Fever Hospital Committee.

I have repeatedly perused the letter of Mr. Secretary Mangles, addressed to our Chairman, with very great attention. And shall now proceed to make a few observations on such parts of its contents, as I may be considered competent to give an opinion upon.

“Paragraph 3d. His Lordship would gladly have seen consideration given to the advantages, to be derived to the general care of health, and particularly for watching the approach of epidemic fever, and providing means of general relief, in case of its prevalence, from the establishment of one great Hospital, as compared with the benefits which would be afforded at the same expense, by an increased number of Dispensaries.”

I think there can be no question as to the superiority of a large Hospital for the accommodation of fever and all other medical cases, for the purposes mentioned in the above paragraph over any number of Dispensaries, strictly speaking; but the expense of the former would necessarily be much greater. In advocating the establishment therefore of a large Hospital for medical cases, I am not opposed to the establishing of Dispensaries. On the contrary, I am of opinion that as soon as an Hospital is provided, Dispensaries should be established in several parts of the town, and particularly in the populous suburbs around. These should be strictly speaking Dispensaries, to afford advice and medicine to all applicants. As a large proportion of those who would apply to those Dispensaries, would be of the poorest and lowest classes, many of them strangers, and without friends in Calcutta; who have no property, save the few rags in which they are partially clothed, and no other means of support save the earnings from their labour from day to day, it is evident they could derive but very little benefit from a Dispensary when labouring under an acute disease. They might indeed apply once or twice, be able to walk the first day; probably contrive to be carried the second; but as the disease advanced, and their strength failed; their means of conveyance exhausted; and their scanty remains of food drained to the dregs; they must inevitably perish from disease or starvation, unless some considerate Chokeedar should take pity upon them, and have them conveyed to the Police Hospital. It is for the reception of this very numerous class of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the suburbs when attacked by acute diseases, that I consider a Fever Hospital so urgently required. And I feel satisfied that thousands of lives would be saved annually by the establishment of such an Hospital, with a certain

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S. Nicolson, Esq.

number of Dispensaries subordinate to it. These Dispensaries might I think be maintained at much less expense than the two now existing, subordinate to the Native Hospital, (which by the by were originally established experimentally.)

When an applicant to any of these Dispensaries is found labouring under an aggravated form of acute disease; the medical person in charge should be instructed to institute an inquiry into the patients circumstances, and if he is ascertained to have no friends, and little or no money, he ought immediately to be forwarded in a Doolee, provided for the purpose, to the central Hospital, there to remain till cured.

It is believed, that an Hospital such as that above alluded to, provided with a sufficient number of moderately sized wards, for different forms of disease; also with the necessary number of servants, attendants, and medical officers will be found infinitely more efficient, more really useful, and more in accordance with the demands of Calcutta, in its present utterly unprovided state as regards the sick poor, than the addition of a few beds, to any number of Dispensaries.

Moreover, I am inclined to believe, that the expense of such an establishment as I have above alluded to of an Hospital and numerous small subordinate Dispensaries, would not greatly exceed the cost, house rent, maintenance of establishment of properly qualified servants and medical men, of a number of Dispensaries, with small Infirmaries attached to each.

In other words I am of opinion, that for all the purposes stated in the above paragraph, one large central well provided Hospital, would meet the pressing necessities of the indigent sick poor of Calcutta and its neighbourhood better, than any number of Dispensaries, "with a few beds to each."

A simple uniform plan, such as that of which I have above sketched the general outline, would in my opinion prove the most efficient for concentrating the earliest information for watching the approach of epidemic fever, and providing means of general relief, in case of its prevalence—into the details of expense I do not consider myself competent to enter, nor do I conceive my incompetence of much consequence in a case of this kind, as from what I have already said, it will be perceived, that I am not so much advocating the saving of rupees, as the preservation of the lives of thousands of our poorest, most helpless, and most destitute, although by no means the least valuable of our fellow creatures.

Before concluding these cursory remarks, I must make a few observations upon the following paragraph of Mr. Mangles' letter.

"Paragraph 6. It appears by the report of the Committee that a Fever Hospital could not be maintained at a less expenditure than 16,000 Rupees, but possibly a fever ward might be attached to the present Hospital at much less expense; and it is clear to His Lordship, that for the same amount, three additional Dispensaries might be established and supported, and by attaching others to the Leper Asylum and General Hospital, seven or eight Dispensaries might be obtained for Calcutta, distributing medical aid, giving facilities for vaccination, and recording nosological information, in every quarter for the town."

The Native Hospital was founded by the voluntary contributions of a number of European and Native gentlemen entirely for the reception of accidents, severe wounds, and surgical cases requiring operation.

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The benevolent gentlemen who, so greatly to their honor, subscribed liberally to found, and subsequently to support the Hospital, framed and passed Rules for its management and government, under the conditions of which, it has prospered to a degree, that must have far exceeded their most sanguine expectations even before the establishment of its two subordinate Dispensaries.

The Native Hospital in its double capacity of a Surgical Hospital as above mentioned, has also afforded medical advice and medicine to out-patients daily ever since its foundation. In the year 1825-1826, prior to the establishment of the Dispensaries, its benefits were bestowed upon 50,608 in and out-patients, and in 1835-1836, ten years after the institution of the Dispensaries, an aggregate number amounting to 236,118 sick individuals, derived professional and medical aid from this institution and its branch Dispensaries alone. I am therefore of opinion that a system which has already been productive of relief to such a vast number of diseased and suffering human creatures, and these benefits spreading wider and wider to an incalculable extent every year, ought on no account to be meddled with. Its constitution, its government, its management, and its rules and regulations, ought to be held sacred. It should be permitted to progress quietly, spreading its benefits far and wide as it has hitherto done. As a Governor of that Hospital, to which I was long attached in another capacity, I should consider it my duty to refuse my assent to any proposal for adding an infirmary to the Hospital, or in any other manner altering its character. My reasons for considering it impolitic to make such an addition to the Hospital I need not mention in this place, as there is not in fact sufficient room for such a building.

There being at present a small monthly surplus after paying all our expenses, the Governors have in contemplation the establishment of a third Dispensary in the suburbs of the Town, but they are not prepared to do so immediately.

Although I am not prepared to state positively, that all or any of the cases of disease which are considered of such a nature as to render it advisable that they should be sent to the Leper Institution, are of an infectious nature, yet the disease is of so loathsome and disgusting an appearance in all its forms—and so many facts have occurred within my own personal knowledge, so strongly tending to prove that several varieties of them are really capable of being communicated by contact, that in my opinion, this Institution should be continued as it now is, entirely separated and secluded from all others to which individuals resort, for medicine and advice. With regard to the last clause of the above paragraph I may observe, and it may indeed be inferred from what I have already stated, that Dispensaries offer no opportunity for the study of the diseases of India. The attendance of the patients is greatly too irregular at the Dispensary, and few of those who apply for relief there have a house in which they can be seen afterwards, and the few who have, would not permit any European to visit them or their families at their own houses. An Hospital on the contrary affords the best possible means of acquiring a knowledge of all the diseases of this country both acute and chronic.

S. N.

No. 75.

D. Stewart, Esq. M. D.

No. 75.

DUNCAN STEWART, Esq. M. D.

Note by D. Stewart, Esq. M. D., on Mr. C. W. Smith's question on the subject of a Fever Hospital, 14th January, 1837.

I have not seen Mr. Mangles' letter; but on the general question of the comparative advantage of Civic Hospitals and Dispensaries, I must say that Dr. Martin's powerful reasoning is to my mind quite conclusive. Dr. Nicolson's illustrations drawn from the history of the Native Hospital, and from an intimate and long acquaintance with the habits, wants and feelings of the Native poor, also appear to me quite decisive of the peculiar applicability of the proposed Fever Hospital to the acknowledged necessities of Calcutta.

I might add my own testimony, if necessary, to the insufficiency of a Dispensary from experience of its short coming in the village of Howrah, where, though the population is industrious, well paid, and crowded, it was found impossible to secure the *regular* attendance of out-patients without the bribe of one or two pice daily, which were *administered* along with the physis, and probably helped fully as much to the cure.

In all Surgical cases, (including in these, cutaneous disease and ulcers) attendance of out-patients at stated periods is more regular, but on the best system and model I know, viz. Mr. Egerton's Hospital, fully three-fourths of the day are devoted by him personally to the duties devolving upon him from attention to only one class of Surgical disease, and we cannot expect to find many, either European or Native gentlemen, equally disinterested or equally qualified. The discussion however I think is greatly to be regretted, as tending to divert attention from the grand object to one of second importance. The objects of both Hospitals and Dispensaries are doubtless allied and similar, but essentially distinct; the latter contributing merely to the temporary alleviation of disease, the former to its *cure* and to a *scientific* acquaintance with its causes and history. Dispensaries will no doubt readily and soon spring up in aid, and association with the Fever Hospital as those of the Native (Surgical) Hospital, have done. It is the natural course of things, and the next ten years will witness it—but not sooner.

D. S.

No. 76.

No. 76.

A. R. Jackson, Esq.

A. R. JACKSON, Esq.

*Note by Dr. A. R. Jackson on Mr. C. W. Smith's question on the
subject of a Fever Hospital, 14th January, 1837.*

I am quite agreed both with Dr. Martin and Dr. Nicolson, that acute disease when once formed cannot be cured except by suitable remedies and domestic comforts afforded to the sick either in their own houses when they have the means of procuring them or in an Hospital when they are too poor to obtain them *otherwise*. It becomes a matter of state and finance to determine whether one life thus saved is worth the chance of six or eight, it might be practicable to preserve from fatal attacks by the relief obtained from a Dispensary on the first feeling of illness allowing that all did apply for the said relief sufficiently early to secure its beneficial efforts. If it is not possible to have both these classes of institutions, an Hospital and Dispensary, attention might be turned to this question, but with reference to the state of Calcutta and its capabilities for the completion and of the present proposal under discussion, I would not for a moment hesitate on the superiority of the plan as laid down by Dr. Nicolson for one Grand Central Hospital for the Medical treatment of all classes of disorders, with subordinate Branch Dispensaries and establishment for forwarding such patients as require house treatment. In respect to the future object of its employment as a School of Medical Instruction there cannot also be a difference of opinion. In any country very little knowledge of disease is obtainable from a Dispensary, and in this less than in any other, from the extreme irregularity with which the applicants return after receiving their remedies and the difficulties the students would have of following the sick through the different stages of their complaints.

A. R. JACKSON.

No. 77.

J. R. Martin, Esq.

No. 77.

J. R. MARTIN, Esq.

Dr. J. R. Martin's Estimate for Dispensaries of 200 Beds and 20 Beds.

At a rough calculation—a Dispensary with 200 Beds attached, i. e. 200 Patients to feed and clothe, will cost about 740 Company's Rupees per month, exclusive of Establishment, Europe Medicine and House Rent. This sum includes Country Medicine for about 250 daily applicants or Dispensary Patients.

A Dispensary with 20 Beds attached will cost about 160 Rupees per month. This sum includes Country Medicine for daily applicants or Dispensary Patients, also clothing, dieting, &c. for 20 House Patients.

No. 78.

Capt. F. W. Birch.

No. 78.

CAPT. F. W. BIRCH.

Captain Birch's return to Mr. McFarlan—Number of Carriages, &c.

MY DEAR MCFARLAN,

Four Wheeled Carriages with two Horses,	724
Four Wheeled ditto with one Horse,	884
Buggies,	1018
Caranchees,	262
Children's Carriages,	41

The above is the result of the Lists taken in separate Thannas. I would say that there are many more than 262 Caranchees in Calcutta; however the Thannadars swear by their Gods that they have given in correct lists.

Your sincerely,

(Signed) F. W. BIRCH.

APPENDIX.

A

An Abstract of Police Disbursements for one year, framed from the Establishment list for June 1836, and Contingent Bills for 1835-36.

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per Month.	Amount. Co.Rs. As. Ps.	Total. Co.Rs. As. Ps.	REMARKS.
	<i>No. 1.—Executive Department.</i>	<i>Establishment, Assessment Department.</i>				
1	Lieut. W. Abercrombie, ...	Engineer, Superintendent of Roads, ...	.....	650 0 0		
1	Sibnoth Chatterjee, ...	Writer, ...	Sa. 50 0 0	52 4 0		
1	Hurrishchunder Sen, ...	Supervisor in lieu of 6 Sircars, ...	a 6 0 0	37 9 6	.....	{ In lieu of 6 Sircars —salary 42 Rs.
6	.....	Peons, ...	a 4 0 0	25 1 3	.....	{ In attendance on the Supdt. of Roads.
1	Robert Sevestre, ...	Executive Officer, ...	300 0 0	313 8 0		
1	.....	1 Sircar, ...	8 0 0	8 5 9	.....	{ Under orders of the Executive Officer.
6	Peons, ...	5 a 5 Sa. Rs. 1 a 5 Co.'s Rs. ...	.....	31 1 11	.....	{ In attendance on the Executive Officer.
1	.....	Bricklayer, ...	.....	7 13 4*	.....	{ * In place of the Bricklayer and eight Coolies the Executive Officer employs 5 Sircars for measuring and receiving Khoas.
8	Mate Coolies, ...	.....	a Sa. 4 0 0	33 7 0*	.....	{ Besides looking after the cleansing of the Roads and Drains of the Division, has charge of Southern Gowkhana.
1	James Green, ...	Overseer, Upper North Division, ...	160 0 0	167 3 3	.....	{
1	E. Campbell, ...	Do. Lower ditto,	130 0 0	135 13 8		{ Besides looking after the cleansing of the Roads and Drains, has charge of Northern Gowkhana.
1	Robert M'Culloch, ...	Ditto Lower North ditto,	160 0 0	167 3 3	.....	{
1	John Tweedale, ...	Do. Upper ditto,	130 0 0	135 13 8		{
1	Sooty, Carpenter Mistry, ...	Southern Gowkhana,	12 0 0	12 8 7		{
1	Hessabdee, Assistant ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	8 0 0	8 5 9	.....	{ Since reduced to 8 Co.'s Rs.
1	Ramjoy, Blacksmith, ...	Ditto, ...	12 0 0	12 8 7		
1	Auker, Assistant Carpenter, ...	Ditto, ...	.....	8 0 0		
1	Benoderam, Hammerman, ...	Ditto, ...	.....	8 0 0		
35		Carried over,...	.....	1814 11 6		

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought forward,...	.....	.....	18	14	11 6				
35	No. 1.— <i>Executive Dept.</i> —(Contd.)									
1	Bheekaree, Blacksmith Mistry,...	Northern Gowkhana, }	.....	12	0	0				
1	Muthoor, Hammerman, ...	Ditto, ... }	.....	8	0	0				
1	Nobeen, Carpenter Mistry, ...	Ditto, ... }	.....	12	0	0				
1	Operty, Assistant ditto, ...	Ditto, ... }	.....	8	0	0				
1	Aunund, Assistant ditto, ...	Ditto, ... }	Sa. 8 0 0	8	5	9				
2	Bellows Man, ...	Two Gowkhana, a	4 0 0	8	5	8				
4	Sircars for the 4 Overseers, ... }	.....	6 0 0	25	1	0	.....			Work with the Overseers, salaries of three have been reduced to 6 Co.'s Rs. each.
2	Durwans, ... }	Two Gowkhana, ...	5 0 0	10	7	2				
1	Teencouree, Je- madar, ... }	Overseer of Circular Road, }	10 0 0	10	7	2	.....			Very old man, considered as a Pensioner. 5 Upper N. Division. 5 Lower ditto ditto. 3 Upper S. Division. 3 Lower ditto ditto.
	16 Sircars for reporting nuisances, encroachments, &c., ... }	.....	10 0 0	167	2	8	.....			16 To report nuisances, &c.
	1 Ditto, ... }	.....	.....	10	0	0	.....			1 Unaccounted for.
17										17
										20 report nuisances, &c 10 Employed by the Supt. of Roads in looking after materials. 7 Ditto by the Executive Officer. 3 In attendance on Mr. Watts. 2 Do. on Mr. Samuel. 3 Employed under Mr. Statham. 6 Ditto under Mr. Clarke.
	46 Peon employed for reporting ditto, ... }	.....	Sa. 5 0 0	240	4	10	.....		
	3 Ditto ditto, ... }	.....	Co. 5 0 0	15	0	0	.....		
	3 Ditto at the Strand Jetties, }	.....	Sa. 5 0 0	15	10	9	.....		
	1 Ditto ditto, ... }	.....	.....	5	0	0	.....		
53										51
119										2 stated to be Discharged.
										53
	Carried over,...	.....	.....	2370	8	6				

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per month.	Amount. Co. Rs. As. Ps.	Total. Co. Rs. As. Ps.	REMARKS.
	Brought forward,...			2370 8 6		
119	No. 1.—Executive Dept.,—(Contd.)					
1	Head Metrany, ...		Sa. 8 0 0	8 5 9		Employed under the four Overseers, six in each Division in keeping the Road and Drains clean.
	16 Khallasies at } 5 Sa. Rs., ... }		83 9 6			
	8 Ditto at 5 Co.'s } Rs., ... }		40 0 0	123 9 6		
24	9 Chowkeydars } in the Espla- nade, ... }		Sa. 4 0 0	37 9 4		Employed in prevent- ing nuisances on the Plain.
	3 Ditto ditto, ...		4 Co.'s Rs.	12 0 0		
12						
5		Mangies em- ployed in five Boats for re- moving Filth, }	5 Sa.	26 2 0		5 Boats.
10		Dandies ditto, ..	4 0 0	41 12 4		
1		Mangy em- ployed in one Boat for throwing Car- cases, ... }	5 0 0	5 3 7		1 Boat.
		Dandies ditto,	4 0 0	8 5 8	2633 8 8	
174						
	No. 2.—Account- ant's Department.					
	1 Cossinoth Doss,	Writer,	60 0 0	62 11 2		{ Accounts — Asses- ment and Judicial. Correspondence, R- cords, Judicial. Assistant to Coss- noth Doss. Pay Book, Conse- vancy Sirkars, &c.
	1 Womachurn Doss, ... }	Ditto,	60 0 0	62 11 2		
	1 Suroopchun- der Doss, ... }	Ditto,	24 0 0	25 1		
	1 Panchanun Banerjee, ... }	Ditto,	24 0 0	25 1 3		
	1 Aumeer Khan,	Duftory,	8 0 0	8 5 9		
	1	Peon,		5 0 0		
					188 14	
	No. 3.—Cash De- partment.					
	1 Madunmohun } Chatterjee, ... }	Moherer, .	12 8 0	13 1 0		{ Writes Bengale Cash Accounts, Doc- cts Bills.
1		Carried over,		13 1 0	2822 7 3	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought forward,...			13	1	0	2822	7	3	
1	No. 3. — <i>Cash Department—(Contd.)</i>									
	1 Goluckchunder Mookerjee,	Moherer,	Sa. 12 8 0	13	1	0				Was not produced before the Committee. Pays the Thana Establishment. Vide No. 17.
	1 Hurromohun Dutt, ...	Ditto,	10 0 0	10	7	2				
	1 Rychurn Seal,	Poddar,	7 0 0	7	5	0				
3							43	14	2	
	No. 4.— <i>Under the Supdt. of the Police.</i>									
	<i>Thanadaree.</i>									
	2 Thanadars at } 40 Sa. }		Co. 83 9 6							
	4 Ditto at 30, .		125 6 4							1st Division, ... 12
	6 Ditto at 25, .		156 12 0							2d Ditto, ... 12
	6 Do. at 25 Co.'s Rs.		150 0 0							3d Ditto, ... 6
	8 Do. at 16 Sa. Rs.		133 11 4							4th Ditto, ... 7
	11 Do. at 16 Co.'s Rs.		176 0 0							
37				825	7	2				37
	14 Naibs at 10 } Sa. Rs. ... }		146 4 4							
37	23 Do. at 10 Co.'s Rs.		230 0 0				376	4	4	
	33 Patrol ditto at } 7 Sa. Rs., ... }		241 5 0							
	39 Ditto ditto at } 7 Co.'s Rs., ... }		273 0 0							
	2 Ditto ditto at } 7 Co.'s Rs., . }		14 0 0							
74				528	5	0				
	Oil, ...		38 10 7							
	<i>Dedt. Unauthorised.</i>									
	Establishment, ...		9 6 3				29	4	4	
	69 Chokeydars } at 5 Sa. Rs., }		308 3 5							By Capt. Birch's Statement— Thulpuhroos, ... 74 Day Chokeydars, 444 Night Ditto, ... 723 <hr/> 1241
	345 Ditto at 4,		1441 1 6							
	274 Ditto at 4-8, ...		1287 3 8							
	78 Do. at 5 Co.'s Rs.		390 0 0							
	295 Do. at 4 Co.'s Rs.		1180 0 0							
	158 Ditto at 4-8, ...		711 0 0							
	3 Ditto at 5, ...		15 0 0							
	16 Ditto at 4, ...		64 0 0							
	12 Ditto at 4-8, ...		54 0 0							
1250				5450	8	7				
1398							7209	13		
	Carried over,.						10076	2	1	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per month.	Amount. Co. Rs. As. Ps.	Total. Co. Rs. As. Ps.	REMARKS.
	Brought forward,...	... ..	... ..	... ..	10076 2 10	
	<i>No. 5.—Siddirallee.</i>					
7	2 Jemadars at } 20 Sa. Rs. .. }	... ..	41 12 8			
	5 Ditto at 16 Sa. Rs.	... ..	83 9 6	125 6 2		
22	9 Naiibs at 6 Sa. ...	... ..	56 6 3			
	13 Ditto at 6 Co.'s...	... ..	78 0 0	134 6 3		
	Oil, ...	... ..	... ..	22 15 9		
245	138 Burkundozes } at 5 Sa. Rs. }	... ..	720 14 6			
274	107 Ditto at 5 Co. Rs.	... ..	535 0 0	1255 14 6	1538 10 8	By Captain Birch's Statement:— Burkundozes, 218 At Boita- khana Thana, 16 234
	<i>No. 6.—Girdwarree.</i>					
1	Jemadar .....	... ..	... ..	10 0 0		
	3 Naiibs at 7 Sa. Rs.	... ..	21 15 0			
5	2 Ditto at 7 Co.'s...	... ..	14 0 0	35 15 0		By Mr. Watt's State- ment..... 218 At Boita- khana Thana, 25 243
	Oil, ....	... ..	... ..	1 0 8		
54	30 Girdwars at } 4-8 Sa. Rs. }	... ..	140 15 0			
60	24 Ditto at 4-8 Co.	... ..	108 0 0	248 15 0	295 14 8	
	<i>No. 7.—Opergustee..</i>					
4	3 Naiibs at 7 Sa.	... ..	21 15 0			
	1 Ditto at 7 Co.	... ..	7 0 0	28 15 0		
19	10 Pykes at 5 Sa.	... ..	52 3 10			
	9 Ditto at 5 Co.	... ..	45 0 0	97 3 10	126 2 10	
23	Carried over,	... ..	... ..	... ..	12036 15 0	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per month	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought forward ...	...	...	...	...	...	12,036	15	0	
	<i>No. 8.—River Chow- kie.</i>									
4	Sircars at 8 Sa. Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	33	7	0	
	8 Boats (hire) } at 6 Sa. Rs. }	...	...	...	...	...	50	2	0	
	1 Ditto .....	...	...	...	...	...	56	2	0	
	9									
	Oil,	...	...	...	...	...	4	11	2	
	4 Manjees at } 4-8 Sa. Rs. }	...	...	...	...	...	18	12	8	
9	5 Ditto at 4-8, Co.	...	...	...	...	...	41	4	8	
	13 Dandies at 3-8 Sa	...	...	...	...	...	47	8	6	
	57 Ditto.	...	...	...	...	...	199	8	0	
	2 Do. at 3-8 Co.Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	254	0	6	
72										
18	Peons . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	72	0	0	
103										
	<i>No. 9—Chowkedars at Govt. House and the Justices' Houses.</i>									
	4 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	16	11	4	
8	4 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	16	0	0	
Establishment per month taken from the Estab- lishment list for June 1836, Co. Rs. . . .							12531	3	8	
Or per year, Co's. Rs. 1,50,374 12 0 equal at the Exchange of Co's. Rs. 104-8 per 100 Sa. Rs.=							1,43,899	4	6	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Quantity.	Materials or Labour.	Amount,				Total,				Grand Total,				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
	Brought forward, Sa. Rs. ..	...	...	...		..	..	..		1,43,899	4	6		
	<i>No. 10.—Repairing Roads, from 1st May, 1835, to 30th April, 1836. Materials.</i>													
190858	Ferraahs of Khoa for the Town } and Circular Roads, ... }	19187	15	4										
41701	Do. for the Strand Roads, ... }	4600	9	1										
	Supplied by Clarke, ... }													
232559		23788	8	5										
	Expenses of breaking Stones, ...	1983	5	2										
	Landing Stone, ...	2148	0	0										
	Hammers, Rattan Baskets, &c....	460	4	1										
	Hackery hire, ...	10	7	11										
	Landing Stone for the support } of Strand bank, }	201	0	0										
	Paving a Lane, &c. ..	67	2	1		20658	11	8						
	<i>Rollers.</i>													
4.	Khallasies superintending the } Rolling of Roads, at 5 Rs. per month }	240	0	0										
1	Peon under Clarke's superintend- } ing the Strand Roads, at 5 Rs. per month }	25	0	0										
	Tar, Grease, &c.	39	8	8										
	Repairing Roller yokes,	46	7	6										
	Feeding Horses employed in } the Rollers, including Syces' } wages, }	2471	5	4										
1	Stone Roller purchased,	57	8	0										
6	Horses purchased, ...	126	0	0		3005	13	6						
	Hackery hire for 190868 Fer- } rahs of Khoa,..... }	6133	1	4										
14062	Coolies measuring Ditto, and } depositing on Roads, ... }	1479	15	1										
24741	Do. digging and levelling Roads, ...	2679	12	0										
2162	Bricklayers spreading Khoa,	361	2	8										
3359	Bhistees watering Do.	447	7	11										
1049	Coolies digging and levelling } Strand Division, ... }	128	7	0		11229	14	0						
	Hackery hire with Stones,	360	14	10										
943	Coolies measuring and depositing } Cutting and levelling Roads, } paid Clarke, }	102	1	11										
		205	2	3										
140	Bricklayers spreading,	23	5	4		691	8	4						
	Strand Bank, contract for keep- } ing it in order 11 months, at 100 Rs. per month }	1100	0	0										
	Coolies placing stones for defence	77	8	0		1177	8	0						
	Carried over,...					44763	7	6						

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Quantity.	Materials or Labour.	Amount.				Total.				Grand Total,				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
	Brought Over, Repairs of Roads.			447	63	7	6	1,43,899	4	6		Overscer Clarke makes use of Box Carts, Hackeries, Coolies, &c. supplied by the Contractor, in cleansing as well as in repairing the roads of his Division—this charge is borne under the head of repairs, the greater part of it being on that account.
	<i>Strand Division.</i>													
3379	Bullocks and Carts at 14-8 } per month, }	1632	14	0										
1255½	Do. for Rollers, ... }	606	13	2										
614	Hackeries at 9-4 per month, ... }	189	4	11										
14631	Coolies, at 3-8 „ ... }	1706	15	2										
	1 Sirdar, 5 „ ... }	60	0	0										
	3 Peons, „ ... }	180	0	0										
	2 Domes, at 4 „ ... }	96	0	0										
	1 Bhistee for 6 months at 4 .. }	24	0	0										
7	—													
	Gunny bags, ... }	5	0	0										
	Wear and Tear, ... }	36	0	0		4536	15	3						
	<i>Sundries.</i>													
	Hackery hire, removing re- } jected Khoas, }	8	10	6										
	Ditto, Stones, .. }	6	4	0										
1	Peon under Clarke, 14th to } 30th September, 1835, ... }	2	13	0		17	11	6						
	<i>Cutch Roads.</i>													
	Hackery hire with Rubbish } to Cutch Roads and sides } of Pucka Roads, .. }	....	....			297	2	7		49,615	4	10	
	<i>N. 11.—Cleansing.</i>													
	<i>1st Division.</i>													
15167	Coolies for Loading Carts, at } 3-8 Sa. Rs. per month, ... }	1769	6	3										
10788	Hackeries, at 9-4 ... }	3328	6	3										
45778	Drain Coolies, at 3-8 .. }	5340	11	3										
8260	Drain Boys, at 2-8 .. }	683	4	3										
366	Coolie Sirdars, at 5 .. }	60	0	0										
363	Dome Sirdars, at 5 .. }	59	7	9										
311	Mehter Sirdars, at 5 .. }	510	12	6										
4221	Mehters, at 4 }	562	12	0										
1268	Domes, at 4 }	169	0	0										
1229	Pair Bullocks for Rollers, at 14-8 }	593	15	3										
7825	Ditto, for Box Carts at 11 ... }	3782	0	0										
250	Coolies with Rollers, at 3-8 ... }	29	1	6										
25	Pair Bullocks for Dome Carts } at 14-8 ... }	12	0	9										
	Wear and Tear of Implements } furnished by Contractor, at } 15 }	180	0	0		16625	13	9						
	<i>2d Division.</i>													
15040	Loading Coolies, at 3-8 .. }	1754	8	9										
7290	Hackeries, at 9-4 }	2246	10	6										
45740	Drain Coolies, at 3-8 .. }	5336	4	0										
	Carried Over, ... }	9337	7	3										
						16625	13	9		1,93,514	9	4		

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Quantity.	Materials or Labour.	Amount.				Total.				Grand Total.				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
	Brought Over, .....	.....	.....			10625	13	9		1,93,514	9	4		
	No. 11.— <i>Cleansing (Contd.)</i> ..	9337	7	3										
6011	Drain Boys, at 2-8	500	14	0										
366	Coolie Sirdars, at 5	60	0	0										
340	Mehter Sirdars, at 5	55	9	9										
1382	Domes, at 4	180	13	10										
5187	Mehters, at 4	691	8	3										
6037	Pairs of Bullocks for Box Carts, } at 14-8	2917	12	6										
31	Pair Ditto, Dome Carts,	14	15	3										
	Wear and Tear, as above,	180	0	0		13939	10	0						
	<i>3rd Division.</i>													
15305	Loading Coolies, at 3-8	1785	8	3										
10852	Hackeries, at 9-4	3345	15	0										
47821	Drain Coolies, at 3-8	5579	0	6										
8028	Ditto Boys, at 2-8	668	15	3										
366	Coolie Sirdars, at 5	60	0	0										
321	Dome Sirdars,	52	7	0										
363	Mehter Sirdars,	59	7	9										
1390	Domes, at 4	185	4	3										
4339	Mehters, at 4	578	7	3										
8236	Pairs of Bullocks for Box Carts, } at 14-8	3980	10	6										
6256	Ditto for Rollers,	3024	9	9										
1085	Bhistecs, at 4	144	10	3										
1085	Wear and Tear, as above,	180	0	0		19644	15	9						
	<i>4th Division.</i>													
15255	Loading Coolies, at 3-8	1775	15	6										
13809	Hackeries, at 9-4	4285	7	6										
39648	Drain Coolies, at 3-8	4625	8	0										
8449	Ditto Boys, at 2-8	704	0	6										
366	Coolie Sirdars, at 5	60	0	0										
346	Dome Sirdars, at 5	56	9	9										
362	Mehter Ditto, at 5	59	5	0										
1373	Domes, at 4	182	15	6										
4297	Mehters, at 4	572	13	9										
4214	Bhistecs, at 4	561	13	0										
5905	Pairs of Bullocks for Box Carts, } at 14-8	2863	14	0										
	Wear and Tear, as above,	180	0	0		15928	6	6						
	<i>Strand Division.</i>													
1	Boat for removing Rubbish from } the Strand Division for 7 } months, at 25 Rs. per month }	.....	.....			175	0	0						
Mds. acer.	<i>Feeding.</i>													
181 24	Gram for Bullocks in the South- } ern Gowkhana from April, } 1835, to March, 1836. }	269	11	0										
593 20	Straw for Ditto,	223	2	4										
45 21½	Oil Cakes for Ditto,	23	0	3										
12	Mustard Oil,	2	2	9										
	Carried Over,	518	0	4		66,313	4	10						

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Quantity.	Materials or Labour.	Amount.				Total.				Grand Total.				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
	Brought Over, ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,93,514	9	4		
	<i>Cleansing,—(Continued.)</i> ....	....	....	....	....	663	13	4	10					
	<i>Feeding,—(Continued.)</i>	518	0	4										
Mds. seer. 296 28	Gram for Bullocks, ...	409	8	3										
116 8	Straw, in the Northern Gow- khana for Ditto, ...	463	0	0										
	Feeding Horses in the Northern Gowkhana, at 15 Rs. each including Syces' Wages, ...	1746	2	9		3,136	11	4						
	Wages of a Moolhee for 7 months, 9 days, at 6 Rs.	43	12	6										
	Extra Carpenter, Blacksmiths &c. employed for repairing Carts, ...	85	14	6										
	Harness for Horses, &c.	105	9	6										
1	Horse purchased,	40	0	0										
5	Bullocks Ditto, ...	56	0	0		331	4	6						
	<i>Gowkhana Establishment.</i> <i>Northern.</i>													
2	Sirdars, 12 months, at 5 Rs.	120	0	0										
1	Ditto, 1 month and 25 days,	9	2	9										
11	Drivers for 12 months, at 3 Rs.	396	0	0										
1	Ditto, for 2 months and 3 days, Bangywallah Bhistee at 6 Rs. ...	6	4	9										
1	Shoeing Bullocks, ...	72	0	0										
		20	8	6										
		624	0	0										
	<i>Southern.</i>													
1	Sirdar, 12 months, at 5 Rs.	60	0	0										
3	Drivers, 10 months, at 3 Rs.	90	0	0										
9	Ditto, 2 months, at 3 Rs.	54	0	0										
8	Ditto, 23 days, ...	17	9	6										
1	Ditto, 5 days, ...	0	8	0										
1	Ditto, 9 days, ...	0	14	6										
1	Bhistee, 12 months, at 4 Rs. ..	48	0	0										
	Shoeing,	9	0	0										
		280	0	0		904	0	0						
	Bullocks purchased, at 5 Rs.	79	8	0										
	A lot of Tools, purchased for the Gowkhana, ...	87	7	9		166	15	9						
	<i>New Carts.</i>													
10	Large Carts, at 95 Rs. ..	950	0	0										
14	Ditto, at 85 Rs. ..	1190	0	0										
1	Small Ditto,	57	13	0		2197	13	0						
25														
	Carried Over, ....	....	....	....	....	73050	1	5						

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Quantity.	Materials or Labour.	Amount.				Total.				Grand Total.				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Pa.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Pa.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Pa.	
	Brought Over, . . . . .	....	....			....	....			1,93,514	9	4		
						73050	1	5						
	Repairing Carts, for the year, } including Iron, Planks, } Nails, Screws, &c. }						841	10	9					
						73891	12	2						
	No. 12. Repairing Bridges, by R. Se- } vestre, }	2759	1	9										
	Repairing Drains, by R. Sevestre	5558	8	7		8317	10	4						
	No. 13.— <i>Rent.</i>													
	Of Thanas,	2234	11	3										
	Constables' Houses,	2200	0	0										Judicial.
	Guard House,	420	0	0										Ditto.
	Khoa Depôt,	86	6	5										
	Gowkhana,	163	6	9		5184	8	5						Cleansing.
	Erecting Thanas,	122	9	3										
	Repairing Thanas,	719	8	10		842	2	1						
	No. 14. Office Charges, Stationery, &c....	....	....			287	7	11						
	No. 15. <i>Miscellaneous,</i>													
	Sergeant's Staff Pay,	260	0	0										Judicial.
	Medicine for Guard,	90	0	0										
	Collector's Office, a Directory, ..	8	0	0										
	Books and Stationery for Assess- } ments, }	62	0	0										
	Boat and Cooly hire on Ballast, ..	69	0	0										
	Advertisement,	546	7	0										
	Sign Boards,	216	11	6										
	Badges,	378	12	9										
	Nogarah,	5	0	0										
	Extra Work,	21	7	0										
	Filth Boat,	15	0	0										
	Paving a Ghaut,	145	14	0										
	Repairing House,	10	0	0		1828	4	3						
										1,93,514	9	4		
	Total, chargeable to the Assessment Fund,									2,83,666	6	6		

90-257-11-2

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designations.	Rates of Salary per month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.	
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.		
<i>Establishment, Judicial—Conservancy Department.</i>											
No. 16.											
1	<i>General Department.</i>										
	H. C. Watts,	Accountant,	Sa. 400		418	0	0				
1	R. Habberly,	Judicial clerk c. m.	280		292	9	8				
1	Shaik Harow,	Interpreter Chinese language,	50		52	4	0				
1	Pittamber Chatterjee,	Bengal Moherer.	15		15	10	9			Keeper of stolen goods, 3rd Division.	
1	Noorally,	Persian Moonshee.	15		15	10	9				
11	Establishment for sinking dead bodies in the River	50		52	4	0			This includes hire of 2 Boats. Besides this Establishment there is a small monthly charge for ropes, &c.	
2		Furashes,	each	5		10	7	0			
2	Durwan,	Sa. 4 Co. 4			8	2	9				
2	Mehters,										
1	Betwallah,	Sa. 5			5	3	6				
1	Crier,	4			4	2	9				
1	Bhistee,	Co. 1			4	0	0				
5	Peons,	3 at Sa. 5 2 at Co. 5			25	11	9				
30											
No. 17.											
<i>Cash Department.</i>											
1	Ramjoy Mookerjee...	Cashier,	60		62	11	2			Also assistant to Cashier. Examines money received, vide No. 2.	
1	Gooroodoss Mookerjee	Moherer,	25		26	2	0				
1	Rychurn Seal,	Poddar,	10		10	7	2	1011	10 0		
3											
No. 18.											
1	<i>Police Hospital.</i>										
1	R. H. Bain, M. D. ...	Surgeon.	Co. 300		300	0	0			(General Superint. sees the Medicine properly made up and administered, also the Diet.	
	M. R. Crawford,	Apothecary,			80	0	0				
2	Gunganarain,	Native Doctors,	at Sa. 12		25	1	2				
2	Nuncoo & Petumber,	Dressers,	at Co. 8		16	0	0				
1	Callychurn Chatterjee	Sircar,	6		6	0	0				
1	Tarrachaund,	Hindoo Cook,			5	0	0				
1	Bussureedun,	Mussulman ditto,			4	0	0				
1	Golaul Sing,	Durwan,			4	0	9				
2	Baroo Panchoo Aunno	Bhistees,	4		8	0	0				
4	Mudoo, Sonatun, } Ukber, Chamroo, }	Male Attendants,	4		16	0	0				
1		Female ditto,				4	0	0			
4		Moordarfrashes,	4		16	0	0			According to Dr. Bain's List the Establishment amts. to Co's. 516 : 8 : 7	
5		Mehters,			20	0	0				
1		Mally,			4	0	0	508	1 2		
27											
<i>House of Correction.</i>											
1	E. B. Gleeson,	Keeper,	Sa. 100		104	8	0			Besides the Salary, gets a commission of 35 per cent. on the profit of Convict labour.	
1		Native Doctor,	12		12	8	7				
1		Dresser.	8		8	5	9				
1		Jemadar of Peons,			8	5	9				
1		Do. of Burkendoss,	10		10	7	2				
1		Naib of ditto,	7		7	5	0				
8		Peons,	6 at Sa. 4 2 at Co. 4		33	1	3				
1		Blacksmith,	2		2	1	5				
1		Durwan,			4	0	0				
1		Mehter,	4		4	2	10				
18		Burkendosses,	5		94	0	6				
2	1 Durwan, 1 Mehter, and Oil for lamp, transferred from the Sheriff.			10	4	9				
37							299	0 0		

Carried over, 1818 11 2

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per Month.	Amount.				Total.				REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
	Brought forward,							1,818	11	2		
	<i>No. 20.</i> <i>Conservancy Department.</i>											
1	Joseph Samuel,	Clerk & Interpreter,	Sa. 250	261	4	2						Overseer Strand Roads. Muster Master and Overseer, Esplanade.
1	Samuel Clark,	Constable,	100	104	8	0						
1	G. H. Statham,	Ditto,	100	104	8	0						
1	Madub Chund Seal,	Writer,	60	62	11	2						
1	Gooroopersaud Bose,	Ditto,	20	20	14	5						
1	Nilmoney Sen,	Ditto,	20	20	14	5						
1	W. H. Grant,	Ditto,	20	20	14	5						
1	Essenchunder Singhee	Ditto,	12	12	8	7						
1		Brahmin,		7	0	0						
1		Mollah,	7	7	5	0						
1	John Scret,	Overseer, Water- ing & Lighting, }	60	62	11	2						
1	Meetoo,	Jemadar in charge of Steam En- gine, }	10	10	7	2						
1	Bissonauth Doss,	Sirkar Canje house,	6	6	4	3						
1		Durwan,		3	0	0						
1	Cullen Sing,	Naib Tank Guard	7	7	5	0						
1	Head Molly,	Mohamedan Bu- rying Ground, }	5	5	3	7						
1	Mate ditto,		4	4	2	10						
3	Mollys,		3	9	6	5						
1	Peon,	Esplanade Walk, . .	5	5	3	7						
10	Coolies,	Ditto,	3	31	5	7						
51	Establishment of Publick Tanks sanctioned by or- der of Govern- ment 28th April, 1834,			238	5	0						
4	Meheters & Bhistees at Seapoys Tatties Meerjauny Gully, }			16	11	5		1,022	10	2		
86												
	<i>No. 21.</i> <i>Under the Supdt. of the Police.</i>											
1	J. J. M' Cann,	Dy. Superintendent	Sa. 272	284	3	6						Gooroochurn was acting for Shyamloll, who has since resumed his office.
1	Bernard Furie,	Clerk,	100	104	8	0						
1	Philip Delmar,	French Interpreter,	50	52	4	0						
1	D. Ryan,	Inspector of Gun- powder Godowns }	30	31	5	7						
1	C. F. Leal,	Register of Ticca Bearers, }	32	33	7	0						
1	Hurryputty,	Assistant Ditto, . .	10	10	7	2						
1	A. Julien,	Writer,	52	54	5	5						
1	J. W. Peterson,	Ditto,		69	11	4						
1	J. H. Councell,	Ditto,	30	31	5	7						
1	Mr. J. Wade,	Ditto,	35	37	10	0						
1	Hurrydoss Sen,	Ditto,	32	33	7	0						
1	Bycantonoth Ban- nerjee, }	Ditto,	30	31	5	7						
1	Radabullub Dutt,	Ditto,	20	20	14	4						
1	Gooroochurn Sirkar . .	Persian Moonshee,		35	0	0						
14				829	14	6						
	Carried over,							2,841	5	4		

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per Month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought Over, .....			..		..	2,841	5	4	
14	No. 21. <i>Under the Supdt. of the Police (Contd.)</i>						829	14	6	
1	Husmutally,	Deputy Persian } Moonshee, ... }	Sa. 25		26	2 0				
1	Nussurdeen Mahd...	Nazer,	50		52	4 0				
1	Modungopal Mo- zendar,	Bengal Moonshee,	30		31	5 7				
1	Ramtonoo Chatterjee,	Bengal Mohurier,	10		10	7 2				
1	Buxoo, ..	Jemadar of Peons,	16		16	11 6				
1	Anwarkhan,	Duftory,	8		8	5 9				
32	Summons' Peons, ..	.....	28 at Sa. 5 4 at Co. 5		166	4 4	1141	6	10	
52	No. 22. <i>Town Guard.</i>									
5	Staff allowance to 5 Sergeants, ..	.....	..		103	9 4				
1	Jemadar, ..	Of Burkendoses, ..	25		26	2 0				
7	} 9 Naibs, ..	Naibs of Ditto, ...	4 at 7 Cos. Rs. 3 at 7 Sa. Rs.		49	15 0				
1		Jemadar of Phatuk	10		10	7 2				
1		Naib of Ditto, ...	6		6	4 3				
1		Bhistee,	4		4	2 10				
1		Mehter,	4		4	2 10				
1		Sweeper,	4		4	2 10				
8		Burkendoses,			32	8 7				
75		Ditto,			413	4 7	654	11	5	Peons attend the Police Office with Prisoners.
101	No. 23. <i>Female Kattara.</i>									
1		Jemadarnee,	Sa. 8		8	5 9				
4		Peons,	5		20	14 4				
1		Bhistee,			4	0 0	33	4	1	Authorized Establish- ment. Actual charge is something more.
6	No. 24. <i>Constables.</i>									
1	R. Bagnall,	Head Constable, ..	Sa. 90		94	0 9				
8	Hamilton, Jones, Perry, Tate, ...	Constables,	at 60		501	9 4				
	Macaskell, Gwat- kin, Closton and Goodsall, ..									
2	J. and G. Steven, ...	Ditto,	at Co. 60		120	0 0	715	10	1	
11	No. 25. <i>Fire Engines.</i>									
1	Thomas Allan, ...	Ditto,	Sa. 60		62	11 2				
1	Edward Jones,	Ditto,			60	0 0				
1		Syrang,	Sa. 9		9	6 4				
1		Jemadar Bhistee,	8		8	5 9				
1		Carpenter,	8		8	5 9				
1		Blacksmith,	8		8	5 9				
2		Moochees,	at 6		12	8 4				
8		Tindals,	at 6		48	0 0				
40		Khallashies, ..	8 at 5 Sa. Rs. 32 at 5 Co. Rs.		201	12 8				
80		Bhistees, ..	7 at 4 Sa. Rs. 73 at 4 Co. Rs.		321	4 0	740	11	9	
136										
	Carried over, .....	.....	.....		6,127	1 6 27				202 12 0

In rains reduced on the
following scales.

1	Constable	60	62	11	2
1	Syrang,	9	9	6	4
1	Jemadar	8	8	5	9
1	Carpenter	8	8	5	9
1	Blacksth.	8	8	5	9
2	Moochees	12	12	8	4
10	Khallash.	50	51	12	9
10	Bhistees	40	41	4	2

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per Month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought forward,						6,127	1	6	
	<i>No. 26.</i> <i>Magistrates' Office.</i> <i>1st or Upper North Division.</i>									
1	C. F. Leal,	Interpreter,	Sa. 150	156	12	0				
1	Bissembhur Law, . .	Writer,	100	104	8	0				
1	Modoo Sooden Ba- nerjee,	Ditto,	40	41	12	9				
1	Goluckchunder Ba- nerjee,	Ditto,	30	31	5	7				
1	A. Malcolm,	Ditto,	30	31	5	7				
1	Joyhed,	Duftory,	8	8	5	9				
1	Ramneedy Panda, . .	Brahmin,	7	7	5	0				
1	Golamsurwar,	Mollah,	7	7	5	0				
2	. . . . .	Peons,	{ 1 at 5 Sa. Rs. { 1 at 5 Co. Rs.	10	3	6	398	15	2	4 Peons are employed in this Division.
10										
	<i>No. 27.</i> <i>2d or Lower North Division.</i>									
1	J. P. Namey,	Clerk,	Sa. 130	135	13	8				
1	Hullothdur Law, . . .	Writer,	100	104	8	0				
1	Gooroopersaud Ba- nerjee,	Ditto,	50	52	4	0				
1	Goopeemohun Chat- terjee,	Ditto,	30	31	5	7				
1	Bhogovan,	Brahmin,	7	7	5	0				
1	. . . . .	Mollah,	7	7	5	0				
4	. . . . .	Peons,	{ 1 at 5 Sa. Rs. { 3 at 5 Co. Rs.	20	3	7	358	12	10	
10										
	<i>No. 28.</i> <i>3d. or Upper South Division.</i>									
1	J. Rodrigues,	Clerk,	Sa. 100	104	8	0				
1	Ramdhone Mitter, . .	Writer,	70	73	2	5				
1	Radanoth Chatterjee, .	Ditto,	50	52	4	0				
1	Samachurn, Ditto	Ditto,	30	31	5	7				
1	Ramnaran, Ditto, . .	Ditto,	50	52	4	0				
1	Chunder Mohun, Do.	Ditto,	20	20	14	4				
1	Hybut Khan,	Duftory,	8	8	5	9				
1	Abrishallah,	Mollah,	7	7	5	0				
1	Sheedanooth Panda, .	Brahmin,	7	7	5	0				
9	. . . . .	Peons,	5	47	0	3	404	6	4	
18										
	Carried over,						7,280	3	10	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Number of Persons.	Names.	Designation.	Rate of Salary per Month.	Amount.			Total.			REMARKS.
				Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	Co.	Rs.	As. Ps.	
	Brought Over,						7,289	3	10	
	<i>No. 29. 4th or Lower South Division.</i>									
1	G. Aviet, ...	Interpreter,	Sa. 250	261	4	0				
1	G. Rodgers, ...	Writer, .....	....	70	0	0				
1	Dyalchaud Bose, ..	Ditto,	Sa. 50	52	4	0				
1	T. Swindon, ..	Ditto, ....	..	40	0	0				
1	Premchaund Mullick,	Ditto,	Sa. 20	20	14	4				
1	..	Duftory, ....	....	8	0	0				
1	..	Brahmin, ....	....	7	0	0				
1	Obed, ..	Mollah,	Sa. 7	7	5	0				
4	..	Peons, ..	{ 2 at 5 Sa. Rs. 2 at 5 Co. Rs. }	20	7	2	487	2	6	
12										
	<i>No. 30. Magistrates.</i>									
1	D. McFarlan, Esq.	Chief Magistrate,...		3,000	0	0				
1	W. C. Blaquiére, Esq.	3d Division,	Sa. 1,400	1,463	0	0				
1	A. S. L. McMahon, Esq. ...	4th Ditto, ..	1,200	1,254	0	0				
1	C. K. Robison, Esq.	1st Ditto, ..	1,000	1,045	0	0				
1	P. O'Hanlon, Esq. ..	2d Ditto, ...	..	1,000	0	0				
1	F. W. Birch, Esq. ..	Supdt. of Police, ..	..	500	0	0	8,262	0	6	
6										
				per month, ...			16,038	6	4	

Or per year, Co's Rs. 1,92,463, equal at the Exchange of 104-8

to Sa. Rs. 1,84,175 1 11

The above paid by Government from General Revenue.

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Description.	For what period.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.				Sa. Rs. As. Ps.				Grand Total.				REMARKS.
		Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Sa.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	
Brought over										1,84,175	1	11		
Judicial Contingent Charges,	From 1st May, 1835, to 30th April, 1836.													
No. 31. Diet.														
To Prisoners,			49	12	2									
Patients,			23	78	13	11								
Sergts. upon Service,			60	0	0									
Witnesses,			72	8	0									
Sundries.			71	4	0	74	95	6	1					
No. 32. Conveyance Allow- ance to Constables, &c.							94	7	14	9				
No. 33. Law Charges.							73	92	0	0				
No. 34. Clothing.														
Prisoners,			81	3	12	9								
Patients,			38	1	10	3	11	95	7	0				
No. 35. Medicine.								50	5	2	8			
No. 36. Repairs.														
Town Guard,			60	0	0									
House of Correction,			184	10	4									
Sergeants' Quarters,			43	3	6									
Police Office,			12	9	5									
Sepoy Barrack,			10	5	10									
Pyke Guard,			107	14	6	41	8	11	7					
No. 37. Reward.														
For Apprehensions, &c.							75	5	0	0				
No. 38. Office Charges.								11	56	3	5			
No. 39. Advertisements.								71	2	0				
							19,936	15	6					
Carried over,										1,84,175	1	11		

Country Medicine
Police Hospital, March to
Nov. 1835, .. 168 0 0
Town Guard and Female
Kattara, Do. 145 2 8
House of Correction
March, 1835, to
July, 1836, .. 192 0 0
505 2 8

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

	Description.	For what period.	Sa Rs. As. Ps.				Sa. Rs. As. Ps.				Grand Total.	REMARKS.
											Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	
	Brought forward, ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19936	15	6		1,84,175 1 11	
	<i>Judicial Contingent Charges.—(Contd.)</i>	<i>From 1st May, 1835, to 30th April, 1836.</i>										
	No. 40.											
	Fire Engines. ..											
	Repairs,					187	13	9				
	New Engine and } Hoses,					410	0	0				
						597	13	9				
	Erecting a look-out } House,					21	8	0				
	Repairs to Engine } House,					8	5	3	627	11	0	
	No. 41.											
	Petty Charges. ..											
	Police Lamps,					624	0	0				
	Passage of a Witness,					100	0	0				
	Removing Patients,					32	2	0				
	Funeral, &c. of Pa- } tients,					737	4	0				
	Chopper and building					181	5	9				
	Cess Pools,					51	2	6				
	Sign Board,					3	10	3				
	Extra Mehter,					27	5	6				
	Fees on Execution } of Warrants, ..					19	11	0				
	Cleaning Wells in } the House of Cor- } rection,					13	0	0				
	Sundries,					63	9	4	1858	2	4	
	No. 42.											
	Rent.											
	Of Female Kattarah,					293	11	6				
	Sepoy Guard,					124	0	0				
	Police Ground Tax,					52	3	3	469	14	9	
	No. 43.											
	Esplanade Roads. ..											
4927	Ferrahs of Khoa,	1653	11	9								
	A Kiln of Jhama } Bricks,	481	7	0								
	Jhama Kanker for } Water gate of the } Fort,	2	12	7								
mds.	Chunam for purify- } ing Drain,	7	3	0								
15	Bamboos for mark- } ing out Roads, ..	22	0	0								
	Kodalies and Weed- } ing Knives,	33	0	0								
	Government Toll } for Khoa at Tol- } ly's Nullah, ..	150	0	0								
						2350	2	4	22892	11	7	
	Carried over,					2,350	2	4			1,84,175 1 11	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

	Description.	For what period.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.				Sa. Rs. As. Ps.				Grand Total.	REMARKS.
											Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	
	Brought forward, ..	....	2350	2	4	22092	11	7	1,84,175	1	11	
	<i>Judicial Contingent Charges.—(Contd.)</i>											
	Hackery hire on Khoa	592 3 10										
	Coolies picking roads & repairing, }	301 9 3										
	Hired Bullocks for Rollers,	469 1 9										
	Landing ballast to protect banks at Hastings' bridge, }	74 8 0										
	Coolies clearing Plain near the river side,	6 4 0										
	Constructing drains to protect the roads at Hastings' bridge,	133 7 0										
	Repairing Children's Walk, }	140 1 10										
	Repairing Balustrade,	116 6 0										
	Ditto, Bridges, ...	21 5 10										
	Covering Aqueducts at the opening of the New road from Govt. House to Kyd Street...	40 10 0										
			1895	9	6							
	<i>Establishment under Statham.</i>											
1	Sirdar, at 5 per mth. }											
30	Coolies, at 3 do. }	1329 5 9										
1	Sircar, at 10 do, }											
1	Mistry, at 6 do. }											
1	Sircar at Khoa Depôt 11 months, }	66 0 0										
			1395	5	9							
			5641	1	7							
	Deduct part of Government Toll for which no receipt was presented to the Civil Auditor, }	.....	21	8	0	5619	9	7				
						28512	5	12				Total Judicial Contingent Charges.
	Carried over, .....	.....							2,12,687	7	1	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Description.	For what period.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	Grand Total. Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	REMARKS.
Brought forward,...	... ..	... ..	... ..	2,12,687 7 1	
<i>Conservancy Contin- gent Charges,</i>	<i>From 1st May, 1835. to 30th April, 1836.</i>				
No. 44. <i>Watering.</i>					
Allowed by Govern- ment, for work- ing the Steam En- gine at Chaund- paul Ghaut, for 12 Months, ...	at 360 per month,	4320 0 0			
For Watering, 8 Months, }	at 2194	17552 0 0			
Repairing Aqueducts. ....	.....	571 2 1			
New Aqueduct or Tunnel, ..... }	.....	2272 12 2			
			24715 14 3		
No. 45. <i>Lighting.</i>					
307 Lamps at 1 : 11 : 6 per lamp per Month, ..... }	.....	6331 14 0			
Deduct for Lamps not lighted, ..... }	.....	196 11 7			
Fixing Lamp Irons and Lamps at the corners of the o- pening of the New cross Road oppo- site Kyd street.	.....	6,135 2 5			
A Lamp and Lamp Iron at the North east corner of Go- vernment House, }	.....	86 9 8			
Further deduction } not accounted for }	.....	6266 0 1 12 8 0			
			6253 8 1		
No. 46. <i>Draining and Paving by R. Sevestre.</i>					
Draining 8 places, ...	.....	1515 12 1			
Paving 7 places, .....	.....	926 7 4			
			2442 3 5		
No. 47. <i>Government House } Sepoy's Tally, ... }</i>	.....	at 24 Rs. per mensem, }	288 0 0		
No. 48. <i>Petty charges.</i>					
Meheters,	216 0 0				
Rafts,	385 15 3				
Carried Over,	601 15 3		33699 9 9	2,12,687 6 1	Most part sanctioned by Government.

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Description.	For what period.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	Grand Total. Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	REMARKS.
Brought Over, ...	... ..	.....		2,12,687 7 1	
Petty Charges, (Continued.)	601 15 3				
Crossing Bramny } Bulls,	151 2 0				
Printing Chief Ma- } gistrate's Proposals }	40 0 0				
Digging Wells, ...	50 7 0				
Repairing Jackson's } Ghaut,	171 7 6				
Ditto Public Tanks, ..	428 13 6				
Do. Wellesly Square } Walk,	169 3 10				
Sundries,	5 15 0				
		1,619 0 1			
Town Guard Building, ....	....	1,805 9 10	3,424 9 11		
No. 49. Office Charges, ..			182 2 3		
No. 50. New Police Hos- } pital.					
R. Sevestre's Bill } for alterations } made in the Pet- } ty Court Jail for } rendering it suit- } able for Patients, }	....	1,300 13 10			
Constructing Two } Partition Walls } —three window } frames — & three } pairs of Venetians, }	....	154 12 5			
Enclosing 2 Pucka } sheds with mat } Walls, .. ..	....	75 6 4			
Making an opening } in the Southern } Wall, .. ..	....	30 15 9			
Constructing a } Cutchu Pucka } Wall, .. ..	....	18 10 2			
Building two por- } tions of a Parti- } tion Wall, ... }	....	14 12 6	1,595 7 0		
No. 51. Cess Pools. ...	....	.....	
3 Biggahs and 15 } Cottahs of Land } purchased at Til- } gullah, ... ..	....	750 0 0			
Stamp Paper for } the Bill of Sale } Ditto, .. ..	....	8 0 0	758 0 0	39,659 12 11	Total Conservancy Contingent charges,
Total Judicial & Conservancy charges defrayed } by Government from General Revenue, ... }			Sa. Rs.	2,52,347 4 0	

An Abstract of Police Disbursements, &c.—(Continued.)

Grand Total of Police charges for one year.		Sa. Rs. As. Ps.	
Brought over amount of Charges defrayed } by Government from General Revenue, .. }	... ..	2,52,347 4 0	
Brought over, from Page 11, amount of } Charges paid out of the Assessment Fund, } or rather charged to the Assessment Fund, }	.. ..	2,83,866 6 6	
Total disbursement of the Police for one year, ..	Sa. Rs.	5,36,213 10 6	

B.

A Statement of the valuation of Premises in the 1st and 3rd Divisions, from the River Hoogly to Wellington Street, including the New Mint.

No. of Streets	Names of Streets.	Valuation per Menssem.	Tax per Quarter.
<i>3rd Division.</i>			
1	Government Place,	15,120 0 0	2,268 0 0
2	Esplanade Row,	7,764 4 3	1,164 10 4
3	King's Bench Walk,	3,733 5 4	560 0 0
4	Hastings' Street,	3,288 0 0	493 4 3
5	Post Office Street,	2,910 10 4	436 9 11
6	Church Lane,	2,453 5 4	368 0 0
7	Counsel House Street,	2,593 1 1	388 15 7
8	Fancy Lane,	1,054 0 0	158 1 12
9	Wellesley Place,	789 5 4	118 6 8
10	Larkin's Lane,	501 5 4	75 3 4
10½	Beecher's Buildings,	853 5 4	128 0 0
11	Old Court House Street,	5,565 13 10	834 14 1
12	Tank Square,	14,519 5 4	2,177 14 8
13	Hare Street,	3,346 5 4	501 15 3
14	Garstin's Place,	953 5 4	143 0 0
15	Bankshall Street,	2,560 0 0	384 0 0
16	Coilah Ghaut Street,	1,541 5 4	231 3 4
17	Vansittart Row,	496 0 0	74 6 8
18	Dacre's Lane,	1,720 0 0	258 0 0
18½	Waterloo Street,	612 3 3	96 5 4
19	Crooked Lane,	775 7 6	116 5 2
20	Ranamooddy Gully,	2,694 6 5	404 2 10
21	Mangoe Lane,	2,315 13 0	347 5 16
22	Barretto Lane,	384 0 0	57 9 12
23	Mission Row,	2,597 5 4	389 9 12
24	Loll Bazar,	2,039 5 4	305 14 8
25	Cooper's Lane,	290 2 1	43 8 5
26	Cossitollah,	8,009 15 8	1,201 7 7
27	Grant's Lane,	521 9 6	78 3 13
28	Weston's Lane,	518 3 9	77 11 14
29	Zigzag Lane,	1,286 9 6	192 15 8
30	Emambarey Lane,	1,422 3 6	213 4 13
31	Sooterkin Lane,	499 3 2	74 14 0
32	Meredith Lane,	532 12 3	79 11 11
33	Nuncoo Jemadar Lane,	494 14 11	74 3 12
34	Jebb's Lane,	97 1 1	14 8 19
35	Bow Bazar Lane,	542 14 11	81 6 17
36	Sibtollah Lane,	653 5 6	97 15 16
37	Kenderdine Lane,	662 3 4	99 5 2
38	Gooreemah Lane,	855 12 11	128 5 18
39	Copalleytollah,	1,240 3 9	186 0 11
40	Coiroo Mittoor Lane,	365 14 0	54 13 15
41	Ruffick Serang Lane,	90 10 8	13 9 10
42	Nolhooker Lane,	763 9 10	114 8 7
43	Chandney Choke, 1st Lane,	672 0 1	100 12 11
44	Chandney Choke, 2nd Lane,	427 2 1	64 0 19
45	Ditto Street,	526 2 2	78 14 7
46	Hiddaram Bonnerjee,	481 0 1	72 1 16
47	Molungah Lane,	1,436 7 5	215 6 9
48	Bepareytollah Lane,	287 5 4	43 1 10
49	Emambaug Lane,	1,655 2 4	248 3 13
50	Goomghur Lane,	475 11 7	71 5 8
51	Lollbharry Takoor Lane,	146 14 11	22 0 6
52	Wellington Street,	412 4 1	61 12 19
53	Ditto Square,	407 7 6	61 1 18
54	New Bow Bazar Lane,	460 4 3	69 0 8
68	Bow Bazar Street,	2,353 4 7	352 14 9
<i>1st Division.</i>		1,11,709 15 1	16,709 4 19
Upper North Strand Road—New Mint,		2,133 5 4	320 0 0
Total Amount Co's. Rs.		1,13,933 4 5	17,089 4 19

Statement of the Valuation of Premises in the 2nd and 4th Divisions within the following Boundaries, viz. North, Cotton Street and part of the Muchooa Bazar Road—South, Esplanade Row and part of the Durruntollah Street—East, College Street and Wellington Street—and West, by the Strand Road, including the New Mint. 28th March, 1837.

Names of the Streets.	Valuation per Mensem.	Tax per Quarter				
<i>2nd Division.</i>						
Strand Road,	2,063 10 5	309 8 13				
Clive Street,	10,900 10 4	1,634 14 1				
Fairlie Place,	3,402 10 6	510 6 5				
Clive Street Ghaut,	1,280 0 0	192 0 0				
Swallow Lane,	674 5 8	101 2 2				
Old Court House Lane,	667 11 8	100 2 9				
Old Court House Corner,	1,070 6 2	160 8 17				
Radah Bazar Street,	4,165 6 10	624 10 14				
Lall Bazar, North Side,	2,018 10 6	302 12 14				
Radah Bazar Lane,	432 7 6	64 13 15				
Durumtollah Street,	2,465 14 8	369 13 7				
Pollock Street,	1,683 4 3	252 7 14				
Sukea's Lane,	1,436 13 10	215 8 2				
Jackson's Ghaut Street,	2,004 11 8	300 10 15				
Old China Bazar Street,	7,001 13 3	1,050 0 7				
Moorghy Hattah Street,	2,308 9 10	345 10 2				
Portuguese Church Lane,	1,424 15 0	213 11 16				
Omrattollah Street,	2,138 6 3	320 11 5				
China Bazar Gully,	1,235 9 5	185 5 6				
Bonfield's Lane,	290 2 2	43 8 6				
Armenian Street,	2,391 10 8	358 11 15				
Govindchund Dhur Street, ..	337 1 1	50 8 17				
Roopchund Roy Street,	646 14 10	97 0 12				
Comul Nyan ka Bare,	1,323 13 9	198 9 0				
Khongraputty Street,	1,869 4 7	280 3 1				
Cross Street,	3,108 4 8	466 2 2				
Puggeaputty Street,	1,343 15 2	201 8 16				
Monohur Doss Street,	3,369 1 1	505 3 15				
Cotton Street,	1,835 2 5	275 2 15				
Durmahattah Street,	1,769 9 7	265 7 0				
New China Bazar Street,	3,294 15 0	494 3 16				
Lyon's Range,	977 1 1	146 8 19				
Chitpore Road,	6,719 10 4	1,007 13 3				
Chattawallah Gully,	1,540 1 0	230 15 2				
Chunam Gully,	2,299 6 5	344 12 19				
Tiretta Bazar Street,	604 14 10	91 0 7				
Hurrenbarry Lane,	831 7 4	124 11 13				
Colootollah Street,	2,759 2 5	413 12 6				
Sreenath Baboo Lane,	647 12 8	97 2 3				
Gungadhur Baboo Lane,	855 0 8	128 3 10				
Champatollah Lane,	1,296 6 11	194 5 18				
Beebee Rozio Lane,	72 8 7	10 14 0				
Bow Bazar Street,	2,937 15 3	440 9 19				
Ruttoo Sircar Lane,	1,582 4 5	237 3 17				
Durumtollah Lane,	448 1 3	67 3 0				
Tarachund Dutt Street,	1,008 13 7	1,050 9 11				
Rajmohun Bose Lane,	243 3 3	36 7 9				
Ramgohun Ghose Lane,	703 0 10	105 8 6				
Soorty Bagaun Lane,	341 5 6	51 2 15				
Rampersaud Shaw Lane,	325 7 4	48 12 18				
Machooa Bazar Road,	1,043 11 10	156 8 15				
Syed Sully Lane,	464 12 9	69 10 18				
College Street,	1,038 10 7	155 10 8				
Sobaram Bysack Lane,	1,333 12 6	199 15 16				
Neemoo Khansumah Lane, ..	726 3 5	108 14 3				
<i>4th Division.</i>						
Durumtollah St. (both sides,)	1,00,747 14 4	15,109 14 4				
	7,266 15 1	1,090 0 3				
Total,.....	1,08,014 13	16,199 14 7				
			<i>Abstract.</i>			
			Valuation.	Tax.		
Amount of the above			1,00,747 14 4	4	15,109 14 4	4
in 2d Division, }						
Do. Do. 4th Do.			7,266 15 1	1	1,090 0 3	
			1,08,014 13 5	5	16,199 14 7	
Do. Do. 3d }			referred,	1,11,799 15 1	1	16,769 4 19
Do. Do. 1st }			to in	2,133 5 4	4	320 0 0
			paper B.			
Total Co's. Rs.			2,21,948 1 10	33,289 3 6		
The Quarterly Tax of the entire			66,484			
Town is Co's. Rs.						
The Quarterly Tax within the			33,289 3 6			
above boundaries is,						
or a small fraction more than one-half of the entire Tax.						
JOHN CARR, Assessor.						

Abstract.

	Valuation.	Tax.
Amount of the above in 2d Division, {	1,00,747 14 4	15,109 14 4
Do. Do. 4th Do.	7,266 15 1	1,090 0 3
	1,08,014 13 5	16,199 14 7

Do. Do. 3d { referred,	1,11,799 15 1	16,769 4 19
Do. Do. 1st { to in	2,133 5 4	320 0 0
	paper B.	

Total Co's. Rs. 2,21,948 1 10 33,289 3 6

The Quarterly Tax of the entire }
Town is Co's. Rs. } 66,484

The Quarterly Tax within the }
above boundaries is, } 33,289 3 6
or a small fraction more than one-half of the entire Tax.

JOHN CARR,
Assessor.

D.

The Collector of Assessments' Office Establishment, for July, 1836.

						Co's. Rs.	Sa. Rs.
1 June, 1831.	Mr. J. Carr,	....	....	....4½	Pr. Ct.	449 5 12	430 0 0
1 Jan. 1832.	M. R. Graham,	....	....	....	....	344 13 12	330 0 0
22 July, 1834.	Mr. T. Thompson,	.....	....	....	....	137 15 0	132 0 0
12 June, 1836.	Mr. J. Street,	....	....	....	....	100 0 0	93 12 0
16 Sept. 1833.	Parbutty Churn Mookerjee,	....	....	....	....	73 2 8	70 0 0
Ditto,	Sumbonauth Sain,	....	....	....	....	62 11 4	60 0 0
1 May, 1820.	Rajkisser Seat,	....	....	....	....	31 5 12	30 0 0
1 August, 1835.	Greeschunder Chowdory, Officiating Writer,	....	....	....	....	15 0 0	14 5 7
1 Dec. 1829.	Esserchunder Bose,	....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
Ditto,	Tarrucknauth Day,	....	....	....	....	15 7 4	14 12 7
Ditto,	Birjomohun Ghose,	.....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
1 Jan. 1830.	Hurrochunder Bose,	.....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
1 May, 1831.	Bipprodoss Ghose,	....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
16 Sept. 1833.	Juggutchunder Mookerjee,	....	....	....	....	20 14 8	20 0 0
1 May, 1834.	Bissonauth Chatterjee	....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
1 August, 1816.	Bissonauth Dutt,	....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
1 May, 1833.	Doyalchaund Banerjee,	.....	....	....	....	12 8 13	12 0 0
Ditto,	Comolawchurn Mookerjee,	....	....	....	....	12 8 13	12 0 0
15 March, 1825.	Parbuttychurn Bose,	....	....	....	....	10 7 4	10 0 0
1 Dec. 1832.	Ramnarain Sain,	....	....	....	....	6 4 6	6 0 0
1 Dec. 1833.	Esserchunder Rockit,	....	....	....	....	6 4 6	6 0 0
1 August, 1810.	Etbarry,	....	....	....	....	7 5 0	7 0 0
1 Feb. 1810.	Choyton,	....	....	....	....	4 2 17½	4 0 0
15 March, 1813.	Juggernauth.	....	....	....	....	4 2 17½	4 0 0
1 July, 1829.	Connoy Loll,	....	....	....	....	4 2 17½	4 0 0
10 June, 1834.	Bissonauth,	....	....	....	....	4 2 17½	4 0 0
1 July, 1885.	Bhuggobah,	....	....	....	....	5 0 0	4 11 0
	Office Rent,	....	....	....	....	156 12 0	150 0 0
						1,547 3 16	1,478 9 2

*E.**from May, 1835, to April, 1836.**Cr.*

Cash Paid to Mr. J. Carr, Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, at 430 Rs. per Month, as per Audited Bill Co's. Rs. 4½,	5,160	0	0	
Cash Paid to Mr. R. Graham, Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, at 330 Rs. per Month, as per Audited Bill,	3,960	0	0	
Cash Paid to Mr. T. Thompson, Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, at 132 Rs. per Month, as per Audited Bill,	1,584	0	0	
Cash Paid to Mr. R. Humphrey, Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, at 100 Rs. per Month, as per Audited Bill,	1,200	0	0	
Cash Paid to Native Writers', Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, as per Audited Bill,	3,425	14	15	
Cash Paid to 3 Writers and one Mohory, Salary from March, 1835, to February, 1836, as per Audited Bill,	696	0	0	
Cash Paid Office rent, from March, 1835, to February, 1836, at 150 Rs. per Month, as per Audited Bill,	1,800	0	0	
				17,825 14 15
Cash Paid to Collectors' Commission, from February, 1835, to January, 1836, on Sa. Rs. 2,68,467 : 4 : 9½ at 2½ per cent. as per Audited Bill,	6,711	10	17	
Cash Paid to Collecting Sircars' Commission, from February, 1835, to January, 1836, on Sa. Rs. 2,27,046 : 14 : 16 at 1½ per cent. as per Audited Bill,	3,405	11	2	
				10,117 5 19
By Amount Transfer Account of Tax on Honourable Company's Houses, from February, 1835, to January, 1836,				17,855 11 4
<i>Contingencies.</i>				
By Cash Paid for Bengalee paper and Petty Office Charges, from March to December, 1835, as per Audited Bill,				486 9 10
<i>General Treasury.</i>				
Amount Paid in Cash into the General Treasury,				2,12,472 3 17½
	Sa. Rs.			2,58,757 13 5½

Collector of Assessment Office, }
1st May, 1836.

(Signed) F. W. BIRCH, Collector.

I.

*Cash Account of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in the ASSESSMENT Department,
for the Month of December, 1836.*

Dr.

November 30th, By Balance brought forward	..	..	Co's. Rupees	..	..	..	8,555	5	7
<i>To General Treasury.</i>									
December 12th, Received from General Treasury on account of Establishment Bills not exceeding 5 Rupees, for November, 1836.	..	..	..	8,068	9	11			
Ditto, 21st, Ditto ditto ditto, exceeding 5 Rupees for November, 1836	..	..	..	4,434	11	1			
Ditto, 17th, 13th December, 1836.	..	..	..	12,108	0	9			
							26	11	5 9
<i>Profit and Loss.</i>									
Ditto, 24th, Received from Sonatun Moochee on account of skinning Dead Carcases at Neemtollah Ghaut, from 5th September to 4th October, 1836.	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	0	0
<i>Contingent for September, 1836.</i>									
Ditto, 26th, Refunded on account of a Bill for advertising, erroneously charged in the account for October last	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	10	9
Co's. Rupees,							33,222	6	1

Cr.

<i>By Contingencies.</i>									
December 31st, Paid amount of Contingent charges for the month of November, 1836 as per list accompanying	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,108	0	9
<i>By Establishment.</i>									
Paid the Salaries of Establishment not exceeding 5 Rupees a month for November 1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,068	9	11
Ditto ditto ditto, exceeding 5 Rs. for November, 1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,434	11	1
							12,503	5	0
31st, By Balance.	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,611	0	4
Co's. Rupees							33,222	6	1

(Signed)

D. M'FARLAN,

Chief Magistrate.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE,
January 20th, 1837.

J.

**Cash Account of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, JUDICIAL and CONSERVANCY
Departments, for the Month of December, 1836.**

Dr.

1836					
November	30th,	To Balance brought forward,	.....	Co's. Rs.	42,174 8 0
<i>To General Treasury.</i>					
December	2d,	Received from the Treasury by an Order, No. 24, dated 22d November, 1836,	.....		810 3 8
	Ditto,	17th, Ditto, Ditto, No. 25, dated Ditto,	.....		519 15 9
		Ditto, Ditto, No. 26, dated 13th December, 1836,	.....		1,916 0 4
	Ditto,	14th, Ditto, on Account of Establishment not exceeding 5 Rupees a Month, for November, 1836,	.....		1,857 7 10
	Ditto,	21st, Ditto, Ditto, exceeding 5 Rupees for Ditto,	.....		5,929 11 9
<i>To Fees.</i>					
	Ditto,	31st, Amount of Sundry Fees, collected from the several Divisions in this Month,	.....		764 0 0
<i>To Fines.</i>					
		Amount of Sundry Fines, collected in the Judicial Department in this Month,	.....		340 0 0
		Ditto, Ditto, in the Conservancy, Ditto, Ditto,	.....		376 8 0
<i>To Profit and Loss.</i>					
	Ditto,	5th, Received from Perrallee, fee for making a Pucka Grave for his wife in the Mahomedan Burying Ground,	.....		5 0 0
					Co's. Rs.
					54,693 7 4

Cr.

		<i>By Contingencies.</i>		
December,	31st,	Paid Judicial and Conservancy Contingent Charges for the Month of November, 1836, as per List accompanying,	.....	7,464 14 10
		<i>By Establishment.</i>		
	"	Paid the Salaries of Establishment not exceeding 5 Rupees for November, 1836,	1,857 7 10	
	"	Ditto, Ditto, exceeding 5 Rupees for Ditto,	5,929 11 9	7,787 3 7
		<i>By Fees.</i>		
	Ditto,	8th, Remitted to the General Treasury on Account of Fees, collected in the Month of October, 1836,	.....	1,005 0 0
		<i>By Fines.</i>		
	"	Remitted to the General Treasury on Account of Fines, collected in the Conservancy Department in the Month of October, 1836,	144 0 0	
	"	Ditto, to the Clerk of the Crown, on Account of Fines, in the Judicial Department in Ditto,	607 8 0	751 8 0
	"	By Balance,	.....	17,008 10 5
				Co's. Rs.
				37,684 12 11
				54,693 7 4

K.

Report on the Balance of Assessment Cash on the 30th April, 1831, with a Statement in continuation to 31st December, 1836.

1st. From the earliest recorded accounts of the Assessment Department, viz. September, 1795, up to 8th October, 1808, the charges for Establishment and Contingencies appear to have been defrayed out of the sums paid to the Magistrate by the Collector of House Tax. On the 8th of October, 1808, a balance of Rs. 2,566 : 0 : 3 is shewn in the accounts, being the surplus of Receipts beyond Payments for the period above stated.

2nd. Subsequent to this, the Magistrates drew on the General Treasury for sums to meet the Establishment and Contingent charges. Sicca Rupees 1,17,511 : 5 appear to have been received in that way on account of charges from August, 1808, to March, 1809, inclusive; and Rs. 1,20,077 : 5 : 3 appear to have been paid on the same account for the same period—thus the balance of Rs. 2,566 : 0 : 3, shewn on the 8th October, 1808, was absorbed.

3rd. From this period to February, 1820, no balance appears in the Magistrate's Accounts. On the 7th February, 1820, an advance of Rs. 1,000 was received from the Treasury.

4th. Between September, 1821, and May, 1822, Rs. 1,370 : 8 : 0 appear at credit, on account of Conservancy forfeitures; and Rs. 645, being the aggregate of a deposit of 15 Rs. a month on account of the Boat Establishment for 3 years and 9 months—are at credit under the directions contained in the 122nd paragraph of the Regulations of Government, under date 17th November, 1821.

5th. The Surplus funds arising from the unexpended portions of the sums received on account of different Publick works amount to Rs. 501 : 15 : 2, as detailed in the annexed statement.

6th. On the 5th July, 1827, Rs. 3,000 were received as an advance, to be applied in the manner described in paragraph 8 of the Report on the Balance of the Town Duty Funds.

7th. Rs. 667 : 8 : 5 appear to have been brought to credit at different periods on account of the proceeds of the sale of old materials, unserviceable bullocks, &c.

8th. The disbursements on account of Establishment and Contingent Charges from September, 1821, to April, 1831, exceed the amount drawn from the General Treasury on that account for the same period by Rs. 1,218 : 12 : 7.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE,
31st October, 1832.

H. C. WATTS,
Head Accountant.

STATEMENT.

				Surplus.	Deficiency.
	Balance on the 8th October, 1808,	2,566 0 3			
	Received from the General Treasury, on account of Establishment and Contingent charges from August, 1808, to March, 1809.	1,17,511 5 0			
	Paid on account ditto,	1,20,077 5 3	2,566 0 3		
Feb. 7, 1820,	Received an advance.	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0		
	Conservancy Forfeitures received between September, 1821, and May, 1822,	1,370 8 0	1,370 8 0		
Mar. 13, 1822,	Deposit on account of Boat Establishment.	645 0 0	645 0 0		
June, 1822,	Received and Paid on account of the undermentioned Publick Works.				
	Constructing the Northern Gowkhana.	4,000 0 0			
	Paid on account of ditto.	4,893 8 0	6 8 0		
June, 1825,	For certain alterations to the Overseer's House at the Southern Gowkhana.	1,201 7 7			
March, 1826,	Paid on account of ditto,	1,178 14 5	22 9 2		
August, 1826,	For constructing a Postah Wall in Boita-khanna.	1,298 10 1			
Feb. 1828,	Paid on account of ditto,	935 0 4	363 9 9		
	Carried over.		3,108 2 11		

*Report on the Balance of Assessment Cash on the 30th April, 1831, with a Statement
in continuation to 31st December, 1836.—(Continued.)*

			Surplus.	Deficiency.
Jan. 1827.	Brought over .. .. .	.. .. .	3,408 2 11	
Jan. 1828,	For constructing a Police Thannah at Neemtollah. ..	1,872 11 9		
	Paid on account ditto.	1,868 5 0	4 6 9	
	Received on account of constructing the Southern Gowkhanna.	13,961 10 0		
	Paid on account of ditto.	14,622 11 11	.. .. .	661 1 11
	Received on account of constructing the Overseer's House at the Southern Gowkhanna.	2,450 13 0		
	Paid on account of ditto,	2,345 15 6	104 13 6	
July 7, 1827,	Received an advance.	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0	
	Received on account of sale of old materials, unserviceable Bullocks, &c.	667 8 5	667 8 5	
	Received on account of Establishment and Contingent charges, from September, 1821 to April, 1831.	27,374 12 5 8		
	Paid on account of ditto,	27,348 61 2 3	.. .. .	1,118 12 7
			7,184 15 7	1,179 14 6
	Deduct amount of Deficiency. .. .. .	.. .. .	1,779 14 6	
		Sa. Rs. or Co's. Rs.	5,405 1 1	
	Balance of account on 1st May, 1831, Sica Rupees. ..	.. .. .	5,765 5 5	
	Received on account of Establishment from 1st May, 1831, to 31st December, 1836, Co's. Rs.	8,57,785 6 4		
	Paid on account of ditto, Co's. Rs.	8,57,785 6 4		
	Received on account of Contingent charges from 1st May, to 31st December, 1836.	8,17,189 1 4		
	Paid on account of ditto, ditto,	8,16,565 13 9	623 3 7	
	Received on account of Fees for House Tax Summonses from 1st May, to 31st December, 1836,	5,359 10 8		
	Remitted to the General Treasury on account of ditto, ..	5,359 10 8		
	Received on account of sundry unserviceable bullocks and carts sold at Auction, and for the skinning of carcases at Neemtollah Ghaut .. .. .	.. .. .	2,168 11 6	
	Received on account of repairs to the Southern Gowkhanna.	1,119 3 5		
	Paid on account of ditto,	1,065 7 7	53 11 10	
	Received from the Collector of Mymensing.	192 0 0		
	Paid for 2 Carts sent to ditto,	192 0 0	.. .. .
	Co's. Rs. ....	.. .. .	8,611 0 4	

*M.**A Statement of Total Yearly Charges of the Police of Calcutta, for 1834-35, 1835-36.*

	1834-35.	1835-36.
<i>Chargeable to Assessment Fund.</i>		
Establishment, .. { Watering,	1,13,712 0 0	1,12,085 2 1
.. { Cleansing, Repairing, &c.	31,530 0 0	31,530 0 0
Contingent, { Watering,	4,475 3 10	6,282 14 0
.. { Cleansing, Repairing, &c.	1,30,483 4 2	1,33,684 4 3
<i>Paid by Government.</i>		
Magistrates' Salaries,	(not paid from the Police.)	
Establishment, .. { Judicial,	74,819 6 10	62,707 9 7
.. { Conservancy,	13,011 14 6	12,560 0 3
Contingent, { Judicial,	28,119 14 3	22,909 15 7
.. { Conservancy,	*21,093 4 4	*19,093 13 0
.. { Esplanade Roads,	6,760 8 2	5,924 6 5

* Exclusive of "Watering," but including expenses of the Steam Engine.

H. C. WATTS.

N.

To D. M' FARLAN, ESQ.

Chief Magistrate of Calcutta.

Judicial Department.

SIR,

I am directed by his Excellency the Right Honourable the Governour General of India in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter dated the 11th instant, submitting, under the orders of Government of the 10th ultimo, a statement of the total Yearly Expenditure of the Police of Calcutta during the last three years, compared with that of the three years preceding, and exhibiting a net stated decrease of Rupees 63,147: 14: 10 per annum.

2. In reply, I am desired by his Lordship in Council to observe, that the chief saving apparent from the statement seems to be in the contingencies of the Conservancy Department, but that it is within the knowledge of Government that complaints are prevalent regarding the state of Drains in Calcutta and Chowringhee. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the saving has not been effected by the discontinuance of any of the measures heretofore had recourse to for keeping the Drains in an efficient state, upon which the health and comfort of the inhabitants so materially depend.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

W. H. MACNAGHTEN,

Secretary to the Government of India.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
19th December, 1834.

(1).

To W. H. MACNAGHTEN, ESQ.

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 19th ultimo, communicating remarks by the Government of India on a Statement of Police Expenditure submitted by me.

2nd. With every desire not to take to myself blame which the Supreme Government may not have been desirous of imputing, I feel it impossible to put upon your Letter any other construction than this—that the Government surmise that I have carried my measures of economy to the extent of neglecting the Cleansing of the Town, and endangering the health and comfort of the inhabitants.

3rd. I feel that I have no right to be disappointed at not receiving the approbation of Government for the saving effected. It was my duty, under my understanding of the views and wishes of Government, to endeavour to effect the saving, and for that duty I am paid; but when there is an implication of blame, I trust I shall be pardoned in entering upon an explanation of the causes of the stated decrease.

4th. What is styled in your Letter the “Contingencies of the Conservancy Department,” embraces a great many heads; but only two of them are connected with the state of the Drains, viz. “Repairs of Drains,” “and Cleansing the Town”—in the margin is the saving on these two heads.

	<i>Cleansing the Town.</i>	<i>Repairing of Drains.</i>
1828-29 } to 1830-31 } 1831-32 } to 1833-34 }	2,54,188 12 3	13,835 12 8
	2,31,658 5 2	28,905 12 9

5th. The small difference in the Repair Bills, amounting to 5,000 Rs. per annum, is owing partly to a reduction in the rate of building, and partly, I trust, to a more searching inquiry into the reality of repairs billed for, and the necessity of works proposed. I would not be understood to praise myself at the expense of my predecessors, but it was contemplated as a part of the new system that the daily attendance of the Chief Magistrate at the Office and in the Town, would enable him to do more in this way than heretofore.

6th. In regard to the Cleansing Contingencies I remark, that the strength of labourers and bullocks, &c. kept up in the last three years has actually been increased compared with the three preceding. Annexed is a Return on that head.

7th. The reduction in expense is effected by a reduction in the Contractors' rates of supplying coolies and cattle as per margin, and also by the gradual discontinuance of Company's bullocks, (that are bought and fed by the Police,) and the employment of contract ones at a cheaper rate.

	<i>Former rate.</i>	<i>Present rate.</i>
Coolies.....	3-12 per month,	3-8
Hackeries.....	10	9-4
Bullocks.....	15	14-8

A Saving of about Rs. 2,400 per annum on the same strength of Establishment, is effected by the reduction of the rates.

8th. The Establishment maintained for this purpose is nearly the same as it used to be, and I greatly mistake if there is any falling off in the activity of those establishments.

9th. The ground upon which the Government felt it necessary to express the hope above referred to is, that complaints are made of the state of the Drains. I am sure I never knew the time in which such complaints were

not made, varied, of course, in intensity, by circumstances, such as the state of the weather, the peculiar qualifications of the Overseer for the time being in any given quarter, and the rank and disposition of complainants who happened at any given time to be annoyed by them; perhaps I may add, the absence of any other more serious cause of complaints at the time. Of this I am quite sure, that so long as the cook-room-washings of every man, high and low, are thrown out before his door into an open Drain, there to evaporate, or be slowly washed from door to door by some Bhistee with his water-bag, the sense of smell will continue to be as grievously offended as it is now.

10th. I am very far from saying that nothing can be done for the Drains, and should hail with the liveliest satisfaction an intimation that funds were forth-coming from any quarter to effect the improvements I desire; but to enter upon this matter here would be foreign to what is intended as a mere letter of explanation. I trust I may be allowed to assure the Government that my desire to meet their declared wishes, on the head of economy, will not induce me to cripple the efficiency of any Department without at least giving them the most ample warning.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. M' FARLAN,
Chief Magistrate.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE,
2nd January, 1835.

Hackeries and Coolies employed under the Scavengers.

1828-29	..	..	..	..	66,159	12	1
1829-30	..	..	..	..	67,608	8	6
1830-31	..	..	..	..	72,896	11	9

Rs. .. 2,06,665 0 4

1831-32	..	..	..	..	74,781	5	9	Rates reduced at the latter end of 1831-32
1832-33	..	..	..	..	73,615	10	0	
1833-34	..	..	..	..	66,748	12	11	At the old rates the expense for the same Es-

tablishment would have been about 69,000.

Rs. .. 2,15,145 12 8

True Copies,

(Signed) D. M' FARLAN,
Chief Magistrate.

*P.**A Statement of the Watering Fund from 1831-32 to 1835-36.*

Total amount of savings of the Watering Fund from 1831-32 to 1835-36, inclusive				
	Co's. Rs. ..			25,897 10 9
<i>Appropriated as follows.</i>				
Additional Reservoir at Chandpaul Ghaut,	1,629	8	9	
Ditto, at the North East Corner of Durumtollah Road,	583	3	11	
2 Screw Valves for the New Reservoir at Chandpaul Ghaut,	463	6	0	
Connecting Pipe from the Old to the New Reservoir,	745	8	7	
6 Small semi-circular Reservoirs on the side of the Aqueduct, Chowringhee Road,	231	13	2	
A set of 4 horse-power Forcing Pumps and fitting ditto to the Steam Engine,	6,451	3	2	
Estimated Cost of the Aqueduct in Park Street,	2,098	4	4	
Ditto, of the Aqueduct in Bow Bazar,	6,849	7	2	
Ditto Ditto, in Chitpore Road,	4,803	11	6	
				23,856 2 7
	Surplus, Co's. Rs.			2,011 8 2
The Aqueducts have been completed but the Bills have not yet been made out. The cost I understand, is likely to fall short of the Estimates.				
<i>Chitpore Road Watering Subscription.</i>				
Paid to the Government Agent by the Lottery Committee,	Sa. Rs.			31,850 0 0
Interest thereon,				6,067 8 0
Premium on Sale of Company's Paper,				481 0 0
Interest on Ditto,				72 5 9
Amount of Company's Paper sold,				12,400 0 0
	Sa. Rs.			50,870 13 9
<i>Disbursed.</i>				
Government Paper purchased,	32,700	0	0	
Interest paid thereon,	189	2	8	
Premium Ditto,	1,287	0	0	
Government Agent's Commission,	127	2	11	
Ditto Brokerage,	17	0	0	
Deposit Fees,	17	0	0	
Renewing Company's Paper,	7	0	0	
To D. M'Farlan, Esq., on account of a Tank in Burtollah,	11,850	0	0	
— Ditto on account of expenses Watering Chitpore Road,	4,911	4	0	
	Sa. Rs.			51,105 9 7
Cash Balance against the Fund,				234 11 10
<i>Memorandum.</i>				
Amount Government Paper purchased,	Sa. Rs.			32,700 0 0
Ditto Ditto sold,				12,400 0 0
Balance with Government Agent,				20,300 0 0
				at 5 per cen

H. C. WATTS.

Q.

A detailed Statement of the Origin and Progress of the Abkaree Tax.

To S. PALMER, ESQ.

Acting Secretary, Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 4th July, 1835, forwarding a Letter dated the 18th June, 1835, to the address of Mr. D. M^r Farlan, Chief Magistrate, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Secretary Bushby, and Mr. M^r Farlan's answer, desiring me to consider the above as being addressed to myself, and furnish the information called for with respect to the Abkaree Mehal of the Town of Calcutta, and beg leave to submit the following detail of its Rise and Progress, for the information of the Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium.

1st. The Abkaree Mehal appears to have been first placed under a system of License in the Town of Calcutta, in the year 1794. by Sir John Richardson and other Justices of the Peace, in conformity with Sec. 52, Chap. 52, of an Act passed in the 33d year of the reign of George the Third, and the sanction of Government, conveyed in their Letter dated the 27th January, 1794, nominating Sir John Richardson and others Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, of which Act and Letter the following are extracts.

Extract from the 33d of Geo. III, Chap. 52, CLIX. “ And be it further enacted, that it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to sell any Arrack or other spirituous Liquors within the Towns or Factories of Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay respectively, without a License for that purpose, under the hands and seals of two or more of the Justices of the Peace having jurisdiction; and that the powers and authorities vested by any Laws or Statutes now in force in that part of Great Britain called England, in any Justices of the Peace for restraining the inordinate sale of spirituous Liquors, shall extend to, and be put in force, against all unlicensed traders in Spirits or spirituous Liquors, within the said Towns and Factories respectively, by the Justices having jurisdiction therein.”

Extract from a Letter of Government directed to Sir John Richardson, Baronet, and others, nominating them Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, dated the 27th January, 1794.

“ From the confidence we repose on your skill and abilities, we have thought proper to appoint you Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, agreeably to the authority vested in us for this purpose, by the 151st clause of the Act passed in the 33d year of the present reign. Chap. 52.”

“ By the prescriptions in the Act, it will not be lawful for any person or persons to sell Arrack or other spirituous Liquors, within the limits of the Town of Calcutta, without a License under the hands and seals of two or more of the Justices of the Peace having jurisdiction. The unrestrained sale of spirituous Liquors is justly deemed a nuisance of the greatest magnitude in this Metropolis, and productive of numerous evils; and we cannot but express our sincere satisfaction that the Legislature has authorized the means of correcting the above. To prevent it entirely may be impracticable, but it may be greatly checked by limiting the number of the venders of Arrack and spirituous Liquors, and by requiring such as may be licensed to pay for their licenses, which we are of opinion should not be granted for more than twelve months. The amount so received for Licenses should be paid weekly or monthly into the Company's Treasury.”

It next appears, that in or about the month of July, 1794, the said Justices of the Peace framed Regulations for the retail vend of country-made spirits, called Doasta, or Bengal-Arrack, declaring that quarterly Licenses should be granted to the venders thereof, and that the fee upon each License granted should be at the rate of one Rupee Eight Annas Sicca per diem, or 136: 14, per quarter; and that one-third of the quarterly rates, or Sicca Rupees 45: 10, should be paid monthly

in advance, which rate so fixed, it appears continued in force as long as the above Commission of the Peace remained extant, that is until the year 1800, when in the month of April of the said year, a new Commission of the Peace was issued, nominating Mr. Charles Fuller Martyn, one of the former Justices, Mr. Mackl w, Mr. Thoroton, and myself, to be Justices of the Peace, and the charge of the Abkaree Mehal (or what was then called the License Department) devolved upon us in succession to the former Justices, and conformably with the Act before mentioned.

On taking charge of the Department in April, 1800, we found the retailers of native spirits and Punch House-keepers paying a daily retail duty of 1-8, as fixed by our predecessors, and that the produce of their last year, that is 1799 and 1800, amounted to 52,312 : 6.

In the month of June, 1800, we raised the License fee to Rs. 2-3 per diem, and restrained the quantity for daily consumption by each retailer to 12 gallons.

On the 1st of January, 1801, we raised the daily rate to 5 Rupees per diem ; the result of which was a produce of Sa. Rs. 67,577 in 1800-1, and in the year 1801-2, Sa. Rs. 99,108 : 10.

In September, 1800, the duty was raised to 6 Rupees per diem, being 8 annas per gallon under the above mentioned restriction, at which rate it has continued to be levied to the present time.

In September, 1802, a duty of 3 annas per gallon was fixed upon the vend of Brandy, Gin, and other European spirits, the levy of which in the warehouses of Merchants being attended with difficulty and vexation, was by their desire transferred to the Wharf, and this duty has been since levied there, on the importation of the spirit, leaving the Merchants subject to only a quarterly fee of 4 Rupees, for a License to dispose of the same by wholesale.

In the year 1802-3, the Native shopkeepers in the Radha Bazar, about twelve in number, dealing in Bengal Rum, were required to take out Licenses for vending the same, paying five Rupees per diem for the privilege of so doing ; which shops were allowed to deal also in Brandy, Gin, and European Spirits, which came taxed to their shops, having paid 3 annas per gallon on the Wharf at the time of importation, as before stated.

In August, 1803, the vend of Taury and Gunja was brought under the License system, and a License duty of one Rupee per diem fixed on the vend of Taury, and a duty of 2 Rupees per diem on the vend of the intoxicating drug called Gunja.

In November, 1808, on the abolition of the office of Superintendent-General of Police, and nomination of Mr. Guthrie to the offices of Superintendent of Police, Magistrate of the 24 Pergunnahs, and Justice of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta, Government were pleased to place the Abkaree Department (the details of which had been previous thereto principally under my guidance) under my exclusive controul ; and signified to the Calcutta Magistrates, in a Letter dated the 4th November, 1808, that the commission of 10 per cent, then received by them on the produce of the duties levied on Spirits, Drugs, and Taury, should be discontinued, and the ordinary details of that duty be vested in one of the Magistrates, and that he should receive as a compensation for his trouble a commission at the rate of 2½ per cent, and that as a compensation for the loss suffered by the Magistrates, Government had been pleased to fix their salaries at 1,400 each, in lieu of the former salary of 800 Rupees per month, and that the Governour General in Council desired that the collection of the duties on Spirits, &c. might be entrusted to Mr. Blaqui re on the footing above stated ; since which time I have held the sole charge of the Abkaree Mehal, in all its branches.

Having concluded the detail of the Rise and Progress of the Abkaree Mehal in the Town of Calcutta, I beg leave to submit the following answers to the queries contained in your Letter.

1st. The total amount of Revenue from the Abkaree Mehal of the City of Calcutta, for the past five years, that is from the 1st May, 1830, to the 30th April, 1835, amounted to Sicca Rupees 8,50,158 : 9.

2d. The said Revenue is classed under the three following heads :—

						Sa. Rs.	As.
Fees on Spirituous Liquors,	.....	....	....	.....	....	7,51,507	9
Fees on Taury,	....	....	....	....	....	67,225	0
Fees on Gunja,	....	....	....	....	....	31,426	0

Sa. Rupees 8,50,158 9

3d. The mode adopted with the proprietors of Native shops, is to grant them Licenses for the term of three months whenever applied for.

4th. The same mode is adopted with respect to keepers of Punch Houses (Tavern keepers are not required to take out Licenses.)

5th. The illicit manufacture of the native spirit in use, which is called Doasta, or Bengal Arrack, is prevented by the Establishment of a spacious Distillery at Soora, in the suburbs of the Town, where all the native spirit consumed in the Town is manufactured (under the controul and supervision of Native officers on my part) at Stills appertaining to the licensed retailers. The illicit introduction of native spirits into the Town, is prevented, by none being allowed to quit the above Distillery in the first instance, without a Pass bearing my signature; and secondly, by none being allowed to enter the limits of the Town without the production of the said Pass. The illicit vend of native spirits is prevented, by the sale being confined to licensed shops, and a general system of surveillance on my part, and vigilance on the part of the officers of the Abkaree Department, aided by those of the Police in preventing the same, and the infliction of fine or imprisonment on conviction thereof.

6th. I am not of opinion, that it would be practicable to farm the Abkaree Mehal in the several quarters of the Town with benefit to the Revenue thereof, or the good order and peace of the Town; on the contrary, I am of opinion it would tend greatly to the detriment and injury of both. The amount realized during the last five years was Sa. Rs. 8,50,158:9, and the monthly charge incurred by so doing Sa. Rs. 531, making Sa. Rs. 6,372 per annum, and for the said five years Sa. Rs. 31,850, being a charge of about Sa. Rs. 3:12:3 per cent, making, with my commission of 2½ per cent, 6:4:3 per cent, about one half of the charge attendant upon the realization of the Assessment of the Town of Calcutta.

7th. The licensed Dealers in native spirits, are supplied with spirits distilled at their respective Stills at the Soora Distillery before mentioned, under the controul of officers stationed there on my part.

8th. A tax of 2 Rupees per diem is levied on the sale of Gunja, but on no other intoxicating Drugs in the Town of Calcutta.

9th. A tax of 1 Rupee per diem is levied on the sale of Taury in the Town of Calcutta, but not upon Putchwaye which is not sold in the Town.

10th. Licensed venders of native spirits pay at the rate of six Rupees per diem, or 8 annas per gallon, for the privilege of retailing daily twelve gallons of native spirits, manufactured at the Soora Distillery, in their respective shops in the Town of Calcutta.

11th. The check upon the introduction of spirits manufactured, according to the European process, at the Distilleries under my controul at Fort Gloucester and Sookchur, called Bengal Rum, is maintained by an observance of the same system of surveillance as is observed at the Soora native Distillery, and not allowing any spirits to be removed from those Distilleries, or introduced into the Town, without a Pass under my signature. Spirits manufactured at the Dhobah and other Distilleries beyond the limits of my controul, are passed into the Town under certificates of the payment of the Still-head Duty from the Collectors of the respective Zillahs in which it is manufactured.

12th. The unlicensed retail vend of Bengal Rum is checked by being confined to licensed shops situated in the Radha Bazar, paying 5 Rupees per diem, and the general system of surveillance and vigilance observed in the prevention of the illicit retail vend of native or other spirits in the Town, and the infliction of fine or imprisonment on conviction thereof.

13th. The following Establishment is kept in the Abkaree Department, and the duties of each officer are specified opposite their respective names.

Mr. David Andrew,	....	....	Head Clerk.—The duty of the Head Clerk is to keep the Accounts of the Abkaree Department, and a vigilant eye over the realization of the Revenue in all its branches.
Commula Caunth Gangolly,	....	.	Writer.—To assist Mr. Andrew in the performance of his duty.
Bissonaut Daas,	..	....	.... Writer.—The same.
Ramjoy Mookhurjee,	...	....	Cash-keeper.—To take charge of the Cash as paid in, and transmit the same to the General Treasury.
Nilmony Mookhurjee,	...	....	Bengal Mohurer, to assist the Cash-keeper.
Mertonjoy Bonnerjee,	..	....	Ditto, ditto.

Ramrutton Ghose, . . . . .	....	Sircar stationed on Wharf, to record all Spirits imported.
Gobind Chunder Ghose, .. . . .	....	Bengal Writer.—To write out Bengalee Passes for Spirits, Taury, &c.
Nobin Chuckerbutty, • .. . . .	....	Bengal Writer.—The same and other miscellaneous duty.
Eight Sircars, .. . . .	....	Six stationed at different parts of the Boundary of the Town, to guard against the illicit introduction of Spirits into the Town.—One is stationed at the Soora native Distillery to supervise the distillation and transmission of spirits from the Distillery to the Town—one is employed at the Office in writing out English Passes, and other miscellaneous duties.
1 Jemadar, .. . . .	..	Stationed at the Soora Distillery.
4 Peons, .. . . .	..	Two stationed at the Soora Distillery.—Two in the Town to watch over the conduct of the Native retailers, and report all irregularities.
12 Peons, .. . . .	..	Four are stationed in the Radha Bazar to watch over the conduct of the Radha Bazar licensed venders, &c. Two are stationed on the Wharf, with Ramrutton Sircar, before mentioned. The remaining six attend daily at the Office, and are employed, as occasion requires, in the execution of the orders of the Head Clerk, in furtherance of the general objects of the Department.
1 Jemadar, . . . . .	..	To controul the above Peons.
1 Poddar, .. . . .	..	To examine the money as paid in.
1 Duftory, .. . . .	..	The usual duties of a Duftory at the Office.

The salaries of the above Establishment amount to Sa. Rs. 531 per mensem.

14th. There are no licensed venders of Opium in the Town of Calcutta, nor is there any rule or regulation in force against the sale thereof without license.

15th. The licenced dealers in Spirits, whether Native or European, pay their License fees in advance monthly, and enter into recognizances, with two sureties, at the time of receiving their licenses, that they will do so, and maintain peace and good order in their respective shops, &c.

16th. Balances seldom occur, as the duty is payable in advance, but where through indulgence the said rule has not been rigidly enforced, and any vender allowed to fall into arrear, it is recovered by the adoption of lenient measures.

17th. Security is not taken from European wholesale venders, as they are not subject to the payment of license duties, but only to a quarterly fee of 4 Rupees for their License, which is always paid with regularity. There are no European retail venders except Punch-House keepers, who enter into the usual recognizance with sureties. Tavern keepers pay no License, the Magistrates differing in opinion as to the extent of their liability to do so.

18th. The sale of Wines is not subject to any restriction by law in the Town of Calcutta. All wholesale dealers in spirits are required to take out Licenses, for which they pay 4 Rupees per quarter, by which they are restricted not to sell any quantity under two gallons, which is so seldom attempted by wholesale venders, as not to require the adoption of any measures beyond the general system of vigilance to check the same.

19th. The licensed retail vender of the Native spirit called Doasta, was originally restricted to the sale of that article alone, but since the duty was raised to the high rate of six Rupees per day, or 8 annas per gallon, in September 1808, he has been allowed to sell Bengal Rum, European Spirits (Wines and Beer) without any further charge for the same; but the quantity is very small, and too trifling to be an object worthy of notice, the generality of Natives preferring the Native spirit called Doasta, to Bengal Rum, or the European Spirit. The Native Dealers who retail Rum in shops in the Radha Bazar, paying a duty of 5 Rupees per day as before stated, are allowed to deal also in Gin, Brandy, and other European Spirits without further taxation, the same having paid an Import Duty of 10 per cent on English, and 20 per cent on Foreign, Bottoms to the Custom House, and 3 annas per gallon to the Abkaree Department, amounting together to more than 6 annas per gallon, the rate of Still-head Duty levied on Bengal Rum.

20th. The venders not being restricted to the vend of particular liquors, for the reasons before stated, in answer to the last Query, it is not necessary to entertain Inspectors to ascertain the different descriptions of liquors sold.

21st. The certificate of a Mofussil Collector, stating that the Still-head has been paid upon the spirit which accompanies it, is not considered sufficient to entitle the holder to sell such spirits by wholesale and retail in Calcutta without a License to that effect.

22d. The Abkaree Boundaries of the City are confined to the limits of the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

23rd. European venders, such as Tulloh and Co., and Mackintosh and Co. sell spirits under wholesale Licenses, Gunter and Hooper, and other Tavern keepers have not been required to take out Licenses for the reasons before stated in answer to the 17th Query, and I have already stated that the law gives no controul over the sale of Wines.

24th. The number of Licensed Venders now paying the Abkaree Revenue is as follows :

Keepers of Taverns,	....	....	....	..	None Licensed.
Keepers of Punch Houses,	....	....	....	..	5
Venders of European Spirits not Tavern keepers,	....	....	....	..	89
Native Venders of Native and European Spirits,	....	....	....	..	None Licensed.
Native Venders of Native Spirits only, [<i>N. B. Allowed to sell European Spirits in small quantities.</i>]					53
Native Venders of Bengal Rum and European Spirits,	....	....	....	..	8
Native Venders of the intoxicating Drug called Gunja, the only intoxicating drug sold under License,					8
Native Venders of Opium,	....	....	....	..	Unknown.
Native Venders of Taury,	....	....	....	..	43

25th. The proceeds of the Calcutta Abkaree Mehal are paid into the General Treasury, monthly. The Revenue Accountant has never exercised any controul over the Magistrates or Magistrate in charge of the License Department, Government having hitherto relied on them, and him, for the accuracy of the Returns made, and accounts rendered.

26th. Settlements are not, concluded annually, or at any fixed periods with the licensed Dealers, &c. under the present system.

27th. Stills are strictly prohibited within the limits of the Town, and it is considered the duty of every officer of the Police, as well as those of the Abkaree Department, to report their existence, if such ever occurred ; but no officer would be empowered to enter and search houses of illicit Stills on his own authority, without a warrant from a Magistrate.

28th. In the event of any illicit manufacturer or vender of spirits (say European) being detected, and the fine not being paid, he would be subject to the penalties laid down for such offences by the Law of England, which declares that persons retailing without License shall forfeit 10 pounds, and on non-payment thereof, be committed to the House of Correction to be kept at hard labour for two months, or till paid.

29th. The Law would be the same with respect to a Native.

Before concluding, I beg leave to crave the attention of the Board to the following statements.

First statement, shewing the amount of Receipts in the License Department, from the time at which duties on spirits were first levied under the Act of Parliament passed in the year 1793, during the six years' administration of Sir John Richardson and other Justices of the Peace,

Viz.

From 1st July, 1794 to 30th April, 1795	....	....	....	41,360	10	0
From 1st May, 1795 to 30th April, 1796	....	....	....	49,844	2	0
From 1st May, 1796 to 30th April, 1797	...	....	....	50,008	4	0
From 1st May, 1797 to 30th April, 1798	....	....	....	47,531	8	0
From 1st May, 1798 to 30th April, 1799	...	....	....	50,144	2	0
From 1st May, 1799 to 30th April, 1800	....	....	....	52,312	6	0

Sa. Rs. 2,91,201 0 0

Second statement, shewing the amount of duty on spirits realized by W. C. Blaquiere and other Justices of the Peace during the first six years of their being in charge of the License Department.

On Spirits.

From 1st May, 1800 to 30th April, 1801	....	....	Sa. Rs.	67,577	0	0
From 1st May, 1801 to 30th April, 1802	....	....	....	99,108	10	0
From 1st May, 1802 to 30th April, 1803	....	....	....	1,13,534	2	3
From 1st May, 1803 to 30th April, 1804	...	....	....	1,19,302	7	6
From 1st May, 1804 to 30th April, 1805	....	....	....	1,22,611	4	3
From 1st May, 1805 to 30th April, 1806	....	....	....	1,60,275	12	9

Excess Sa. 3,91,208 4 9 Sa. 6,82,409 4 9

To which is to be added the duty levied on Taury and Gunja during latter three years, viz.

	<i>Taury,</i>		<i>Gunja,</i>			
From August, 1803 to 30th April, 1804..	14,113	8 0	4,793	0 0		
From 1st May, 1804 to 30th April, 1805..	19,800	4 0	5,118	0 0		
From 1st May, 1805 to 30th April, 1806..	21,003	4 0	4,409	8 0		
	54,917	0 0	14,320	8 0	69,237	8 0

Total Excess Sa. 4,70,445 12 9 Sa. 7,61,646 12 9

Third statement, the amount realized during the last six years has been Sa. 10,43,494 11 6

Excess above Sir John Richardson, &c. Sa. 7,52,293 11 6

Recapitulation.

Sir John Richardson, &c. six years,	...	...	...	..	2,91,201	0 0
W. C. Blaquiere, &c. first six years,	..	..	...	...	7,61,646	12 9
W. C. Blaquiere, &c. last six years,	...	...	..	..	10,43,494	11 6

I cannot conclude, without soliciting the Board to accept a thousand apologies on my part, for the delay which has occurred in complying with their wishes, which I fear has been but imperfectly done in the foregoing ; and expressing my readiness to furnish such further information as may be required after perusal thereof, and willingness on all occasions to render my services useful when honoured with their commands.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE,
March 11th, 1836.

(Signed) W. C. BLAQUIERE,
Magistrate.

(47)

S. 6.

*Memorandum of the outstanding Balance in the License Department on the
31st August, 1836.*

	Recoverable.	Sicca Rupees.
Of these Balances Rs. 5,900 has been paid in; the remainder is in a train of daily payment.	Bengal Arrack Shops,.....	25,683 8 0
	Bengal Rum Shops,.....	2,574 0 0
	Gunja Shops,.....	1,418 0 0
	Taury Shops,.....	1,705 0 0
	Punch Houses,.....	450 0 0
	Sicca Rupees, ..	<u>31,830 8 0</u>
	Doubtful.	
	Bengal Arrack Shops,.....	7,224 0 0
	Taury Shops,	<u>1,127 0 0</u>
	Sicca Rupees. ..	<u>8,351 0 0</u>

POLICE OFFICE.

14th September, 1836.

T.

An Abstract of Fees, Fines, and Escheats, levied at the Calcutta Police for 5 years.

Fees.	Amount.	Fines.	Amount.	Escheats.	Amount.
1st May, 1831, to } April, 1832,..... }	8,229 4 0	1st May, 1831, to } April, 1832,..... }	7,027 8 0	1st May, 1831, to } April, 1832, .. }	189 6 0
1st May, 1832, to } April, 1833,..... }	9,124 10 0	1st May, 1832, to } April, 1833,..... }	5,562 10 0	1st May, 1832, to } April, 1833, .. }	141 6 0
1st May, 1833, to } April, 1834,..... }	10,062 0 0	1st May, 1833, to } April, 1834,..... }	4,281 14 9	1st May, 1833, to } April, 1834, .. }	858 10 0
1st May, 1834, to } April, 1835,..... }	10,998 0 0	1st May, 1834, to } April, 1835,.... }	6,560 0 6	1st May, 1834, to } April, 1835, ... }	5,826 0 6
1st May, 1835, to } April, 1834,..... }	10,735 5 0	1st May, 1835, to } April, 1836,..... }	6,791 8 10	1st May, 1835, to } April, 1836, ... }	
	49,149 3 0		28,223 10 1		7,015 6 6

U.

Statement of the Profits of each Lottery, and the expenses of the Establishment and Contingent for the last 12 years.

(Prepared for the Committee of the Municipal Inquiry.)

	Profits from the year, 1825 to 1836.	Expenses from the year 1825 to 1836.			Loss.
1st Lottery of 1825, . . . 45,200		Establishment,	21,924 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 1,00,000		Contingent,	4,613 1 9		
	1,45,200			26,537 1 9	
1st Ditto ditto 1826, . . . 98,200		Establishment,	18,940 12 3		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 1,00,000		Contingent, .	4,623 10 0		
	1,98,200			23,564 6 3	
1st Ditto ditto 1827, . . . 1,00,000		Establishment,	17,724 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 80,550		Contingent,	4,701 14 0		
	1,80,550			22,425 14 0	
1st Ditto ditto 1828, . . . 55,560		Establishment,	17,724 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 52,710		Contingent,	4,797 1 0		
	1,08,270			22,521 1 0	
1st Ditto ditto 1829, . . . 60,000		Establishment,	16,462 11 3		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 60,000		Contingent,	4,594 13 9		
	1,20,000			21,057 9 0	
1st Ditto ditto 1830, . . . 60,000		Establishment,	11,724 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 36,690		Contingent,	5,441 14 9		
	96,690			17,165 14 9	
1st Ditto ditto 1831, . . . 91,423		Establishment,	11,724 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 62,536		Contingent,	6,486 4 9		
	1,53,959			18,210 4 9	
1st Ditto ditto 1832, . . . 18,126		Establishment,	12,101 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 72,960		Contingent,	5,942 5 3		
	91,086			18,043 5 3	
1st Ditto ditto 1833, . . . 31,804		Establishment,	11,347 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 25,115		Contingent,	6,478 14 8		
	56,919			17,825 14 8	
1st Ditto ditto 1834, . . . 37,575		Establishment,	12,101 0 0		
2d Ditto ditto ditto,		Contingent,	6,470 7 6		
	37,575			18,571 7 6	9,135
1st Ditto ditto 1835, . . . 37,004		Establishment,	11,712 14 6		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 1,230		Contingent,	7,132 8 10		
	38,234			18,845 7 4	
1st Ditto ditto 1836, . . . 35,895		Establishment,	Co's Rs. 12,035-12		
2d Ditto ditto ditto, . . . 9,615		Contingent,	„ 6,904-15		
	45,510			18,940 11 0	
Total Profits, . . .	12,72,193		Total expense. . .	2,43,709 1 3	

V.

Statement shewing the Annual Demand, Collections and Charges of Collections, of the Calcutta Ground Rent.

Gross Annual Demand.	Remission.		Total Remission.	Net Annual Demand.	Average Annual Collection.	Charges of Collection.	Net Collection.
	Due from Lands in the possession of the Lottery Committee.	Due from Lands not in existence.					
Rs. As. G. C.	Rs. As. G. C.	Rs. As. G. C.	Rs. As. G. C.	Rs. As. G. C.	Rs. As. G. C.	Commission payable to the Native Omlah at 5 per Ct.	Rs. As. G. C.
19,011 7 11. 1	158 6 3 1	259 7 11 0	408 13 14 1	18,602 9 17 0	14,318 0 0 0	715 14 8 0	13,602 1 12 0

CALCUTTA, COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.
12th December, 1836.

JOHN C. ERSKINE,
Officiating Collector.

X.

Copy of the Superintendent of Police's Report to the Governour General respecting the River Police, dated 29th September, 1836.

The Chamber of Commerce has at last come forward with a recommendation to Government to establish a more efficient system of River Police. It has recommended, as I understand, the appointment of an additional Magistrate to decide all cases of River offences, and of course with an Establishment of some extent under him to enable him to enforce the authority with which he is intended to be vested.

I conceive that this mode would be found too costly, more so than the occasion warrants ; and I venture to hope that the plan I am about to recommend to your Lordship's attention, will be found sufficiently adequate to repress the existing evil, without entailing any great expense on the Government or the Mercantile Community—A moderate addition to the present Police Establishment connected with the River—An extension of power to the Superintendent of Police—And the application of the provisions of the 2nd Geo. III. Chap. 28 to boats of all descriptions plying on the River within the jurisdiction of Calcutta, together with the registration of Coolies or Hackeries—would be found sufficient.

From the want of Docks and Quays, the Shipping frequenting this Port are obliged to discharge their cargoes into Bhurs or Lighters, and goods are exposed to plunder in various stages—In discharging and receiving cargo—in transit to and from the Wharfs—in remaining often (of necessity) in the Bhurs from a late hour in the evening until the opening of the Custom House the following morning—and in transit to and from the Custom House on Coolies and Hackeries.

In all these stages there are a number of delinquents on the look out for plunder, who avail themselves of every opportunity of abstracting goods, and who have every facility in doing so, in the want of any adequate means to the Police of identifying the culprits in the numerous receiver's shops, none of whom are licensed, and whom the law can seldom reach—and but too often in the culpable connivance of the native Sirkars and Burkandozes to whose care the property has been intrusted by the owners.

The Bhurs and Lighters are, with very few exceptions, the property of persons living on the opposite side of the River, and beyond the jurisdiction of the Calcutta Police. They are let out by the owners to sets of one Mangee or helmsman, and four Dandies or rowers, at the rate of about 6 Rupers per mensem, and a share of the plunder made. The greater part of the pillaged property is taken to the other side of the River and divided ; it is then sent into the Interior, or advantage is taken of the dark nights to land what may be saleable in Calcutta.

In receiving or discharging cargo, an extra piece or package is endeavoured to be conveyed into, or retained by, the boat alongside ; if immediately discovered, it is only a mistake ; if the boat once leaves the ship without discovery being made, there is no possible means of recovery, seldom even of tracing the property, from the difficulty of identification.

In transit to and from the Wharfs bales and packages are opened, and portions of the contents abstracted, a little and a little from each ; the openings are carefully reclosed, and on delivery the tale being complete no suspicion is formed. On opening the package a brick or a piece of wood which has been inserted to make up weight is found, and it is then too late to remedy the theft.

Ships often continue to discharge cargo until a late hour in the day, as of course they cannot afford to strike work where both men and boats are hired by the day, because the Custom House is shut. The consequence is, that the boats either remain alongside the ship all night, or put to the shore until morning. In either case the opportunity of abstracting

property is too good to be lost. If alongside the ship, the smaller boats are in attendance to carry off the plunder—if in shore, the plunder is quickly run up to some receiver, in whose hands it does not remain beyond the time sufficient to divide and transmit by several hands, in different directions, to escape detection. A Churndar or Burkundoz is generally entertained for the care of the property, but he must have the eyes of Argus to detect plunder all night, and if he had, it would avail little; moreover he has often more than one boat under his charge—he is rather a convenience to them, since in case of the property being missed, it has been in his charge not in theirs.

In transit to and from the Custom House small packages are very frequently carried off, and sometimes even large boxes, by the coolies employed. The depredations committed by this class has been long felt as an intolerable nuisance; the amount of property stolen in this way is very great, and the complaints on the subject are not confined to the Ghauts, but are made from every part of the Town. Identification is almost impossible, and the property stolen never recovered. Hackeries also are occasionally used in abstracting property in transit. It was I think in February last that 6 boxes of Indigo were in this manner carried off and distributed in the northern part of the Town in the course of a few hours, the boxes broken up and thrown into the Tanks for concealment; information was lodged with me about eleven o'clock of the following morning, and I succeeded by great exertion in recovering about two-thirds, but all trace of the Hackerie or driver was lost. I could obtain no description of either, and had the plunder consisted of chintzes, or piece goods, or any other article difficult of identification, the recovery of any part would have been hopeless.

It is of great importance not only to the Mercantile Community but to Government itself, that this system of pillage be put down; and I shall proceed to shew that it is perfectly practicable to do so without incurring any great expense, or the necessity of any innovation on the present system of Police.

I am of opinion in the first place, that a Registry should be made of all descriptions of boats plying on the river Hoogly, within the jurisdiction of Calcutta, and the owners be compelled, under the usual penalties, to have their names and residences painted in large letters on the stern; a fee to be levied on registry, and fresh entry to be made on change of owners. On conviction of theft, the boat should be liable to seizure and sale, and the crew to fine and imprisonment with or without labour, according to the nature of the offence. All the Provisions however of 2nd Geo. III. Cap. 28, are applicable to the Hoogly River Craft, and the adoption of them would at once tend greatly to the suppression of the pillage which now exists.

The Registry of the Coolies and Hackeries also is a very necessary measure, and equally with the registry of Bhurs would tend to check much crime; for when men know that they are liable to be identified and detected, they will avoid the commission of crime. The Regulation fee might be made very slight or might be dispensed with, but any Coolie plying for work without his number and badge, by which he may be distinguished, should be liable to fine or imprisonment at the discretion of the Magistrate, and the same should be extended to any owner of a Hackerie and Karanchee not having the name or number in some conspicuous part.

It has been alledged that the operation of such regulations, as new to India, would be felt as an oppression; but in what way could it so operate, unless it be oppression to deprive the thief of his plunder, or what is the same thing, make the attainment of that plunder a matter of difficulty, by making detection comparatively easy—take the parallel case of the Ticka Palankeens; in addition to being obliged to wear a distinguishing number, the very rate of their gain has been defined, and if there were any approach to oppression in this case, it were the interfering with the rate of remuneration a man may demand for his labour; yet we here of no complaints on this head—the bearers are perfectly contented, the complaints against them very unfrequent, and the system is found to answer perfectly.

The next thing to be considered is the amount of Police establishment adequate to the duties to be performed.

The present Police force connected with the River is as follows,—

Four Boundary Burkandoz Thannahs, consisting of 1 Jemadar, 4 Naibs, and 54 Burkandozes, on a line extending from Hautkollah on the north, to Cooley Bazar on the south, or a line of bank of about 3 miles in extent. Since the reduction of the Permit Thannahs, consequent on the abolition of the Town Duties, the duty has been very heavy on the above force, from the increased facilities in smuggling salt.

There are also 9 Chowkee Boats, having each 1 Manjee, 2 Chaprasees, and 8 Boatmen, or a total of 99 men.

The pay of the whole of the men should be increased, to insure our getting such as may be depended upon to enter service; and I have calculated this increase in the estimate I have made of the expense attending my proposed plan. On the present rate—I allude particularly to the Chowkee Boats—it is difficult to get any to enter, and those whom we do succeed in getting are of the very lowest class of watermen, whom necessity, or the hope of making money by connivance at thefts, induces to take service.

It will be readily seen how totally inadequate the above force is for the duties of River Police. I would recommend the following alterations and additions,—

1st. The appointment of two European River Constables to be stationed on the River, with a monthly salary of 200 Rupees each, finding their own boats. Their particular duty to be to patrol the River at uncertain times—visiting the different Shipping to see that no suspicious Craft lurk about them—to take note of the Lighters employed by the different Ships, so that on property being missed the Police may have the necessary clue to the depredators—to see the Lighters on leaving the Ships proceed at once to the Custom House Ghaut, instead of crossing the River under pretence of strength of tide—to examine all suspected boats, or apprehend those against whom complaint or information has been lodged—and generally to look after the River Craft.

2nd. The Constables to be assisted in their duties by the Chowkee Boats, which I would recommend to be increased to 14 in number, and the pay of the Manjee and Boatmen respectively raised from 4-8 and 3-8 to 6 and 5. The present Boat Chaprasees I would do away with entirely, and have a regular relief from the Boundary Thannahs to stay on board each boat.

3rd. The Boundary Thannah to be increased from four to seven, having a centre or Sudder Thannah of 1 Jemadar, 2 Naibs, and 24 men, stationed at Clive Street Ghaut, with six subordinate Thannahs, consisting of 1 Naib and 14 men each, to be stationed at intervals along the River—to take care of the Ghauts, and keep watch on the Coolies and Hackeries employed along the whole line—and to assist the boats, when necessary, in the apprehension of offenders.

4th. The Superintendent of the Calcutta Police, under the general controul of the Chief Magistrate, as at present, to be charged with the additional supervision of the increased establishment, but be vested with sufficient authority to deal with the River offences, and to act generally as contemplated by the Chamber of Commerce.

It is the opinion of some I know, that the Judicial and Executive powers should be entirely separate, and it is argued that the vesting the Superintendent of Police with such power would be at variance with the principles of justice, because he would be necessarily interested in the conviction and punishment of offenders, seeing that he had been instrumental in tracing and apprehending them. That this argument might hold good with reference to the subordinates of Police, might be true enough, for they are concerned in frequent personal scuffle with offenders—they become heated by the effort of apprehension, or the trouble a more cunning delinquent has caused them in searching him out—and their tone of mind and habits are not such as to guard them against the influence of such circumstances; but the Superintendent of Police cannot very easily be himself concerned personally in the apprehension of delinquents, and there surely must be a great difference in trust-worthiness and a sense of right (so to speak) between an officer holding that situation and his subordinates, arising from the superiority of habit and education of the one over the other. I cannot conceive how personal feelings, such as anxiety to gain credit by a man's conviction, can exist in him against any particular offender; it must be a matter of indifference to him whether A B or C suffer as A B or C; it is the offence committed against the Community, the welfare of which is entrusted to his guardianship, which must interest him, as it would any Magistrate who conscientiously performed his duty. If the Superintendent can feel that by his own vigour and activity he has succeeded in repressing crimes, he will be satisfied that his duty has been fulfilled. The actual punishment of a criminal can be no gratification to him. That the vesting the Superintendent with these powers would be attended with beneficial result I have long felt convinced, but I would not be considered presuming in forcing that conviction on your Lordship's attention; and now proceed to submit an estimate of the expense attending my proposed plan.

The present expense of the subordinate Establishment connected with the River Police, is as follows,

Contingencies,	..	...	....	....	9	8	0
1 Jemadar,	...	...	....	....	20	0	0
4 Naibs at 6,	..	...	....	....	24	0	0
54 Burkundozes at 5,		....	....	....	270	0	0
18 Boat Chaprascos at 4,		....	....	....	72	0	0
9 Manjees at 4-8,		....	....	....	40	8	0
72 Boatmen at 3-8,		....	....	....	252	0	0
9 Boats at 6,	..	....	....	....	54	0	0
4 Thannahs,	..	....	....	....	22	0	0
4 Sirkars at 8,	..	....	....	....	32	0	0
							<hr/> 306 0 0

Proposed Establishment.

2	European Constables at 200,	..	..	..	400	0	0
1	Jemadar, ..	..	..	..	20	0	0
8	Naibs at 7,	..	...	..	56	0	0
08	Burkundozes at 6,	..	..	..	48	0	0
12	Boatmen at 5,	..	..	..	60	0	0
14	Boats at 6,	..	..	..	84	0	0
5	Thannahs at 12,	..	..	..	60	0	0
	Contingences, Oil, &c.	..	..	..	14	0	0
	Registering Sirkar,	..	..		30	0	0
						1,956	0 0
	Shewing an excess in the proposed Establishment of ..	..	..	..	..	1,150	0 0

(Signed) F. W. BIRCH,

Superintendent Calcutta Police.

Z.

To RUSSOMOY DUTT, ESQ.

Member and Secretary First Sub-Committee of Municipal Inquiry.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inclose the Papers you have called for, regarding the Police Hospital, in your letter dated 31st ultimo, and beg to say, that any further inquiry your Committee may wish to make regarding this Institution, I shall be happy to attend to it. I must request the Committee will be so good as bear in mind, that more than two-thirds of the patients admitted into the Police Hospital, are picked up off the Streets by the Police authorities, and brought to us in a dying state, or in the very last stages of disease and starvation, when no earthly assistance can be of any avail.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. H. BAIN,

Police Surgeon.

CALCUTTA.

February 13th. 1837.



Return shewing the Number of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, as well as the sum total Dieted and under Medical treatment in the Police Hospital, from 1st January, to 31st December, 1836.

Months.	Total Number of Patients treated in the Police Hospital during each month.	Admissions.				Discharges.				Deaths.			
		Europeans.	Mahomedans.	Hindoos.	Total.	Europeans.	Mahomedans.	Hindoos.	Total.	Europeans.	Mahomedans.	Hindoos.	Total.
January, 1836	3,135	2	37	57	96	2	24	42	68	0	20	31	51
February, do.	2,752	3	34	66	103	3	19	28	50	2	13	30	45
March, .. do.	2,845	10	50	54	114	2	35	35	72	3	16	28	47
April, .. do.	1,600	14	40	67	121	13	31	37	81	1	19	26	46
May, .. do.	2,705	17	52	49	118	6	33	31	70	3	21	25	49
June, .. do.	2,188	14	39	44	97	11	34	39	84	2	15	22	39
July, .. do.	1,299	10	38	42	90	9	28	32	69	1	11	21	33
August, do.	1,446	12	39	53	104	5	22	26	53	1	17	14	32
September, do.	1,719	11	43	50	104	11	21	27	59	2	22	22	46
October, do.	2,142	13	43	69	125	11	16	31	58	1	15	23	39
November, do.	2,390	17	44	60	121	14	34	37	85	1	25	22	48
December, do.	2,404	11	38	71	120	7	27	20	63	6	18	36	60
	26,625	134	497	682	1,313	94	324	394	812	23	212	300	535

Z. 1.

Expenses of the Police Hospital, as charged in the Contingent Bill, for each month in the year 1836, for Dieting, Extra Charges, Country Medicine, Leeches, &c.

	Total Number of Patients treated in the Police Hospital during each month of the year 1836.	Amount Expended		
		Rs.	As.	P.
January, .. 1836.	3,135	183	2	7
February, .. do.	2,752	178	7	4
March, .. do.	2,845	221	14	6
April, .. do.	1,600	229	8	3
May, .. do.	2,705	286	3	3
June, .. do.	2,188	216	10	3
July, .. do.	1,299	161	3	5
August, .. do.	1,446	163	5	4
September, .. do.	1,719	188	9	1
October, .. do.	2,142	228	6	5
November, .. do.	2,390	223	4	2
December, .. do.	2,404	253	14	10
Total.	26,625	2,534	9	5

NOTE. Each European is dieted at four annas per diem. Each Native is dieted at three Puns of Cowries.

Z. 2.

List of the Establishment employed in the Police Hospital, for the year 1836, and the duties of each individual shewn.

No.	Names.	Rank.	Monthly Salary. Co's. Rupees.			Remarks.
			Rs.	As.	P.	
1	M. R. Crawford,.....	Apothecary,.....	80	0	0	{ General Superintendent. This person is obliged to see the medicines properly made up and administered, and the same with respect to diet. He is the running Sircar employed in purchasing different necessaries, and diet, &c. and making out Returns.
1	Collychurn Charterjee,	Sircar,.....	6	0	0	
1	Gunganarain,	Native Doctor,	12	8	7	{ Employed to make up the medicines for the Patients.
	Nuncoo,	Dresser,	8	0	0	
2	Pettumbur,	Ditto,	8	0	0	{ Employed in dressing wounds, sores, and blisters, &c. &c.
1	Tarachund,	Hindoo Cook,	5	0	0	
	Muddoo,	Hindoo Ward Cooley,...	4	0	0	{ Employed as Cook for the Hindoo Patients.
2	Sonatan,	Ditto ditto ditto,	4	0	0	
	Uckbur,	Mussulman ditto ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed to wait upon those Hindoo Patients who are unable to assist themselves, bringing and carrying away bedding and food, &c.
2	Chawmoo,	Ditto ditto ditto,	4	0	0	
	Bussruddy,	Mussulman Cook,	5	0	0	{ Employed to wait upon Mussulman Patients who are unable to assist themselves, bringing and carrying away bedding and food, &c.
2	Goloo,	Ditto assistant,	4	0	0	
1	Jeetun,	European Ward Cooley.	4	0	0	{ Employed to cook for the Mussulman Patients.
	Barroo,	Bheestee,	4	0	0	
	Panchoo,	Ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed to wait upon European Patients. bringing and carrying away bedding and food, &c.
3	Aunoo,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
	Bheem,	Sweeper,	4	0	0	{ Employed to bring water for washing, cooking, &c.
	Pauncho,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
	Phuttoo,	Ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed for carrying away the filth, washing the beds, &c. for the Hindoo Patients.
	Daunaporee,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
	Sultan,	Ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed for carrying away the filth, washing beds, &c. for the Mussulman Patients.
6	Mohun,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
1	Ladha,	Myla Mehter,	4	0	0	{ Employed for carrying away the filth, washing beds, &c. for the Women Patients.
	Buxoo,	Dome,	4	0	0	
	Cassarree,	Ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed to remove all the filth from the Hospital to the River.
	Luchmun,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
4	Bundhoo,	Ditto,	4	0	0	{ Employed to carry away dead Bodies.
1	Golaub Sing,	Durwan,	4	0	0	
	Johoorum,	Nurse,	4	0	0	{ In charge of the gate.
2	Beebun,	Ditto,	4	0	0	
1	R. H. Baine,	Surgeon,	300	0	0	{ Employed to wait upon the Mussulman and Hindoo Women Patients, who are unable to assist themselves, bringing and carrying away bedding, &c.
31		Co's. Rs. per mensem...	516	8	7	

Z. 3.

Convicts' Labour.

<i>From 1st May, 1831, to 30th April, 1836.</i>										<i>Five Years.</i>
Amount of Sales of Soorkie and Kankur,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,440 14 3
Ditto, Ditto, of Soojee, Flour, Bran, &c.,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,841 11 1
Ditto, Ditto, of Rice and Coodie,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106 13 0
										<hr/>
										Sa. Rs. 31,398 6 4
Superintendent's Commission,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,313 11 8
Bricks purchased,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,827 11 8
Wheat ditto,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,608 8 9
Paddy and Rice ditto,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	206 1 3
Old house bought and pulled down,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	878 12 6
										<hr/>
										26,834 13 10½
										<hr/>
										Balance, Sa. Rs. 4,563 8 6
Out of which paid Sirkar's wages at 8,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	480 0 0
Repairs of Dhenkees, Mills, Sieves, Gunny bags, &c.,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	556 8 9
										<hr/>
										1,036 8 9
										<hr/>
										Net Profit, Sa. Rs. 3,526 15 9

Z. 4.

Convicts' Labour for 1836-37.

Amount Realized by sales of Soorkie, Flour, and Bran,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21,202 3 10
Amount Paid for Bricks and Wheat,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,226 12 6
										<hr/>
										Co's. Rs. 2,975 7 4
Commission of the Keeper at 35 per Cent. on net outturn of labour,	Co's. Rs.	..	1,041	2	3					
Petty Charges,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108 13 9
Sirkar's Wages,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102 6 4
										<hr/>
										Co's. Rs. 1,723 1 0

Z. 5.

Statement of Prisoners in the House of Correction—shewing the Proceeds and Expense of Convicts' labour for the year 1836.

Number of Prisoners Committed during the year.	Amount of Dieting Bills, &c.			Amount of Purchases.			Amount of Sales.			Amount in favour of Convicts' labour.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
856	4,564	1	3	11,649	12	6	16,404	7	4½	4,754	10	10½

CALCUTTA: HOUSE OF CORRECTION,

9th February, 1837.

E. B. GLEESON,

Keeper.

Z. 6.

Khoa.

FORM OF DAILY REPORT.

Koilah Ghaut Depôt—Best Khoa.

Months.	Date.	Rollers.			Durumtollah Road.					Mangoe Lane.					Old Court House Street				
		Co's. Bullocks.	Hired Bullocks.	Horses.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rub. Hack.	Bhesties.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rub. Hack.	Bhesties.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rub. Hack.	Bhesties.
December, 1886.	1			0	66	14	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2			0	71	15	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	19	4	0	0	0
	3			0	72	15	0	0	4	58	12	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6			0	31	7	2	0	3	103	22	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	7			0	19	1	1	0	3	36	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	8			0	53	11	1	0	3	31	7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	9			0	0	0	0	0	3	113	25	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	10			0	0	0	0	0	2	146	31	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	12			0	0	0	0	0	0	174	36	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
	13			0	0	0	0	0	0	143	31	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	14			0	0	0	0	0	0	195	14	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	15			0	0	0	0	0	0	189	49	4	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	16			0	0	0	0	0	0	246	52	5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	17			0	0	0	0	0	0	241	50	5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	19			0	0	0	0	0	0	89	19	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	20			0	0	0	0	0	0	80	17	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	21			0	0	0	0	0	0	174	37	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	22			0	0	0	0	0	0	155	33	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	23			0	0	0	0	0	0	123	27	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	24			0	0	0	0	0	0	89	20	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	26			0	0	0	0	0	0	175	37	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	27			0	0	0	0	0	0	210	46	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
	28			0	0	0	0	0	0	220	47	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	C
	29			0	0	0	0	0	0	154	33	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	C
	30			0	0	0	0	0	0	271	57	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	C
	31			0	0	0	0	0	0	103	22	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	C
Roller.		54	27																
Total. Pairs of Bullocks.		189	135 Horses.	0	315	66	4	0	26	3,518	750	20	0	127	19	4	0	0	C

True form.

W. ABERCROMBIE Superintendent roads

Z. 7.

Khoa.

FORM OF DAILY REPORT

Koilah Ghunt Depot—Old Khoa.

Month.	Date.	Khungraputty Street.					Colootollah Street.					Pubberry Gully.					Neemoo Khansomah's Lane.				
		Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rubbish Hackeries.	Bhistees.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rubbish Hackeries.	Bhistees.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rubbish Hackeries.	Bhistees.	Khoa.	Hackeries.	Coolies.	Rubbish Hackeries.	Bhistees.
December, 1836.	1	55	12				9	2									Rs.				
	2	51	11														18	4			
	3	48	11														32	7			
	4																				
	5																96	20			
	6																				
	7																				
	8																				
	9																				
	10																24	5			
	11																				
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	29																				
	30																				
	31																				
		157	34				9	2						65	8		170	36			



Z. 13.

Return of the Muster of the four Divisions for 1st January, 1837.

Divisions.	Oversers.	Sirdar,	Sirkars,	Peons,	Mehlers,	Sirdar Mehler,	Sirdar Doome,	Horse Box Carts,	Co's. Bullocks for Do	Small Carts,	Horses for Roller,	Co's. Bullocks for Do.	Hired Do. for Do.	Hired Do. for Box Carts,	Hackeries,	Loading Coolies,	Drain Coolies,	Coolies for Roller,	Boys	Bhistees,	Mehlers,	Doomes,	Dogs' heads,
Upper North	1	1	1	6	21	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	19	22	42	100	0	17	0	12	2	5
Lower North,	1	1	1	4	20	1	1	1	0	20	0	0	0	19	0	19	109	0	18	0	15	4	5
Upper South,	1	1	1	6	25	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	26	26	42	108	0	22	12	12	4	5
Lower South,	1	1	1	6	23	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	21	38	42	106	0	25	12	12	4	5
Total	1	4	4	22	89	4	3	5	2	26	0	0	0	85	86	145	423	0	82	24	51	14	18

I do hereby certify the above is a correct Return of the Establishment as mustered by me, deducting such as were reported absent by the Overseer, Peons, and Sirkars.

(Signed) H. G. STATHAM,
Overseer.

This is a Daily Report of the Four Divisions of the Town sent in by Mr. Statham as Muster Master.

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2d Lieut.

Superintendent of Roads and Conservancy.

Z. 14.

Monthly Muster Roll of the number of Box Carts, Hackeries, Mates, Boys, and Mehters, Doomes, &c. employed in the Upper South Division, for the month of August, 1836.

August, 1836.	Sirdar.	Sircar.	Peons.	Mates.	Sirdar Mehter.	Sirdar Doomes.	Horse's Box Carts.	Co's. Bul. for Box Carts.	Horse's Roller.	Co's Bullocks for Roller.	Hired Bullocks for Roller.	Hired Bullocks for Box Carts.	Hackeries.	Loading Coolies.	Drain Coolies.	Boys.	Bhistees.	Mehters.	Domes.	Dogs's heads.	Bullocks died.	Horses died.
1	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	5	17	20	24	42	119	23	12	12	4	4	0	0
2	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	5	17	19	23	42	114	24	12	12	4	4	0	0
3	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	18	20	42	115	15	12	12	4	5	0	0
4	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	19	23	42	119	24	12	12	4	5	0	0
5	1	1	6	23	1	0	4	3	8	5	17	19	24	42	113	17	12	12	4	4	0	0
6	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	20	27	42	117	15	12	12	4	5	0	0
7	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	23	23	42	115	24	12	12	4	5	0	0
8	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	19	22	42	119	29	12	12	4	5	0	0
9	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	19	24	42	119	22	12	12	4	5	0	0
10	1	1	6	23	1	1	4	3	8	5	12	18	24	42	119	30	12	12	4	5	0	1
11	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	20	21	42	119	28	12	12	4	5	0	0
12	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	18	24	42	119	24	12	12	4	5	0	0
13	1	1	6	23	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	18	22	42	110	15	12	12	4	5	0	0
14	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	0	0	0	23	22	42	119	28	12	12	4	4	0	0
15	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	22	20	24	42	118	24	12	12	4	5	0	0
16	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	5	17	20	25	42	119	26	12	12	4	4	0	0
17	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	21	22	42	118	28	12	11	4	5	0	0
18	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	12	21	26	42	119	29	12	12	4	5	0	0
19	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	20	26	42	116	21	12	12	4	5	0	0
20	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	20	25	42	116	29	12	12	4	5	0	0
21	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	21	18	42	84	13	12	12	4	5	0	0
22	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	10	20	25	42	119	25	12	12	4	5	0	0
23	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	5	17	22	24	42	106	27	11	11	4	4	0	0
24	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	19	21	42	117	29	12	12	4	5	0	0
25	1	1	6	23	1	1	4	3	8	5	17	21	12	42	81	1	12	11	4	5	0	0
26	1	1	6	23	1	0	4	3	8	5	12	22	5	35	82	2	12	12	4	4	0	0
27	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	4	13	23	29	42	119	30	12	12	4	4	0	0
28	1	1	6	23	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	22	29	42	120	28	12	12	4	5	0	0
29	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	4	18	23	22	42	118	25	12	12	4	4	0	0
30	1	1	6	24	1	0	4	3	8	4	23	23	22	42	119	23	12	12	4	4	0	0
31	1	1	6	24	1	1	4	3	8	4	22	19	22	42	114	22	12	11	4	5	0	0
31																						
31																						
186																						
738																						
31																						
21																						
124																						
93																						
216																						
132																						
450																						
630																						
705																						
1,295																						
3,521																						
700																						
371																						
368																						
122																						
146																						
0																						
1																						

Z. 15.

A Monthly Roll of the number of the Honourable Company's Carts and hired Hackeries, Coolies, Boys, Mehters, Doomes, Peons, &c. employed in the Lower South Division, in February, supplied by Mr. DICKSON.

	Day of the month.	Box Carts.	Hackeries.	Sirdar Cooley.	Coolies.	Drain Coolies.	Boys.	Sirdar Mehter.	Coolies.	Sirdar Doome.	Coolies.	Sirdar.	Peons.	Bhistees.	Dogs's heads.
Monday,	1	14	38	1	42	103	13	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Tuesday,	2	15	43	1	42	106	30	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Wednesday, ..	3	14	44	1	42	111	25	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Thursday, .. .	4	16	42	1	42	112	24	1	11	1	4	1	6	12	4
Friday,	5	14	45	1	42	112	19	1	11	1	4	1	6	12	4
Saturday, .. .	6	14	45	1	42	109	22	1	12	1	4	1	6	10	4
Sunday,	7	16	42	1	42	114	28	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Monday,	8	14	38	1	42	105	30	1	11	1	4	1	6	12	4
Tuesday,	9	15	45	1	42	121	29	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Wednesday, ..	10	16	44	1	42	118	30	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Thursday, .. .	11	16	43	1	42	115	23	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Friday,	12	16	42	1	42	121	19	1	11	1	4	1	6	12	4
Saturday, .. .	13	15	34	1	42	70	15	1	10	1	4	1	6	12	4
Sunday,	14	16	43	1	42	123	30	1	12	1	4	1	6	11	4
Monday,	15	15	38	1	42	112	24	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Tuesday,	16	12	42	1	42	114	23	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Wednesday, ..	17	15	38	1	42	112	20	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Thursday, .. .	18	15	27	1	42	68	15	0	9	1	3	1	6	9	4
Friday,	19	15	44	1	42	124	29	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Saturday, .. .	20	17	42	1	42	122	29	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Sunday,	21	20	35	1	42	120	27	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Monday,	22	19	29	1	42	108	28	1	12	1	4	1	5	12	4
Tuesday,	23	20	36	1	42	121	25	1	12	1	4	1	5	12	4
Wednesday, ..	24	20	36	1	42	117	29	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Thursday, .. .	25	20	35	1	42	116	29	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Friday,	26	19	36	1	42	117	26	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Saturday, .. .	27	20	35	1	42	119	22	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Sunday,	28	20	35	1	42	115	25	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
Monday,	29	19	30	1	42	109	23	1	12	1	4	1	6	12	4
		477	1126	29	1218	3234	711	28	339	29	116	29	172	342	110

(Signed) E. CAMPBELL,
Overseer.

(True Copy,)

CALCUTTA,
2d March, 1836.

W. ABERCROMBIE.

Z. 16.

1 Monthly Muster Roll of the number of the Honourable Company's Carts, &c. also hired Carts, Hackeries, Drain Coolies, Boys, Mehters, Doomes, &c. employed in the Lower North Division in February, 1836, supplied by Mr. DICKSON.

Date of the month from 1st to 29th Feb. 1836.	Honourable Company's Horses and Bullock Carts.	Honourable Company's little Carts and single Bullocks.	Hired Carts.	Hackeries.	Loading Coolies.	Drain Coolies.	Drain Boys.	Sirdar Mehter.	Mehters.	Sirdar Doome.	Doomes.	Peons.	Sirdar.	Roller Horses.	Dogs killed.	Doomes Carts.	Horses died.	Bullocks died.
1	6	1	20	26	42	155	19	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
2	6	1	20	24	42	164	14	1	13	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
3	6	1	20	24	42	165	20	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
4	3	1	20	22	42	158	6	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
5	7	1	18	21	42	159	23	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
6	6	1	20	23	42	149	11	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
7	6	1	20	26	42	162	15	1	14	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0
8	7	1	19	23	42	161	20	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
9	7	1	20	22	42	159	23	1	11	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
10	7	1	20	23	42	162	20	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
11	6	1	20	21	42	153	16	1	11	0	0	3	1	13	3	0	0	0
12	4	0	20	19	42	161	24	1	15	0	0	4	1	13	3	0	0	0
13	5	0	17	15	37	132	2	1	10	0	0	6	1	13	3	0	0	0
14	3	4	22	22	42	165	39	1	15	1	4	4	1	0	4	0	0	0
15	5	4	23	23	42	159	27	1	14	1	4	5	1	13	4	6	0	0
16	5	4	23	23	42	162	24	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
17	5	4	23	20	42	161	15	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
18	3	4	22	3	28	132	19	1	12	1	4	6	1	13	3	0	0	0
19	5	4	21	22	42	157	25	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
20	5	4	24	21	42	159	29	1	15	1	4	2	1	13	4	0	0	0
21	5	4	23	21	42	161	18	1	15	1	4	3	1	0	4	0	0	0
22	4	4	23	21	42	160	25	1	14	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
23	5	4	24	21	42	164	27	1	15	1	4	5	1	13	4	0	0	0
24	4	4	24	22	42	164	27	1	15	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
25	5	4	23	21	42	160	27	1	14	1	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
26	5	4	23	22	42	164	22	1	13	1	4	5	1	13	4	0	0	0
27	5	4	22	19	42	159	24	1	15	0	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0
28	5	4	23	22	42	162	22	1	15	0	4	6	1	0	4	0	0	0
29	5	4	23	17	42	155	24	1	15	0	4	6	1	13	4	0	0	0

(Signed) R. M'CULLOCH.

(True Copy.)

CALCUTTA.

1st March. 1836.

W. ABERCROMBIE.

Z. 17.

UPPER NORTH DIVISION.

*Return of the Muster of Box Carts, Hackeries, Coolies, Boys, &c. for the month of
January, 1837.*

Date.	Sirdar.	Sirdar.	Peons.	Mates.	Sirdar Mehters.	Sirdar Doomes.	Horse Box Carts.	Small Carts.	Hired Bullocks for Roller.	Hired Bullocks for Box Carts.	Hackeries.	Loading Coolies.	Drain Coolies.	Coolies for Roller.	Boys.	Mehters.	Doomes.	Dog's Heads.
1	1	1	6	21	1	0	0	6	0	19	23	42	100	0	17	12	2	3
2	1	1	5	22	1	1	0	6	4	20	19	39	137	1	24	12	4	5
3	1	1	6	21	1	1	0	6	4	19	19	42	113	1	23	12	4	4
4	1	1	6	21	1	1	0	6	4	18	24	42	129	1	21	12	4	5
5	1	1	6	21	1	1	0	6	4	19	21	42	111	1	16	12	4	5
6	1	1	6	22	1	1	0	6	4	19	20	40	124	1	22	12	4	3
7	1	1	6	20	1	1	0	6	4	19	22	42	109	1	21	12	3	5
8	1	1	6	20	1	1	3	6	0	20	23	42	146	0	23	11	4	4
9	1	1	6	16	1	1	3	6	4	18	14	35	148	1	7	12	4	6
10	1	1	6	20	1	0	3	6	0	19	21	42	151	0	26	12	3	4
11	1	1	6	21	1	1	3	6	4	17	20	42	155	1	20	12	4	5
12	1	1	6	21	1	1	3	6	4	19	21	42	149	1	3	12	4	5
13	1	1	6	21	1	1	3	6	4	18	24	42	153	1	12	11	4	3
14	1	1	6	23	1	1	3	6	4	20	15	41	146	1	20	12	4	5
15	1	1	6	22	1	1	3	5	0	19	21	42	148	0	26	11	4	6
16	1	1	6	22	1	1	3	5	4	19	20	42	146	1	24	12	4	4
17	1	1	6	23	1	1	2	5	4	16	18	42	145	1	27	12	3	4
18	1	1	6	22	1	1	2	5	4	18	24	42	116	1	27	12	4	5
19	1	1	6	22	1	1	2	5	4	18	21	41	151	1	27	12	4	4
20	1	1	6	22	1	1	2	6	4	19	22	42	146	1	22	12	4	5
21	1	1	6	22	1	1	2	6	4	19	26	42	151	1	27	12	4	3
22	1	1	6	20	1	0	2	6	0	19	25	42	148	0	31	12	4	2
23	1	1	6	22	1	1	2	6	4	18	22	42	139	1	31	12	4	5
24	1	1	6	20	1	0	2	6	4	20	20	42	143	1	37	12	4	4
25	1	1	6	20	1	0	2	6	4	17	15	36	125	1	30	12	4	4
26	1	1	6	21	1	1	2	6	4	20	17	38	147	1	23	12	4	4
27	1	1	6	21	1	1	2	6	4	19	18	39	135	1	28	12	3	3
28	1	1	6	21	1	0	2	6	4	20	19	41	138	1	18	12	2	2
29	1	1	5	21	1	0	2	6	0	20	19	42	137	0	22	12	3	4
30	1	1	6	21	1	0	2	6	4	19	21	42	134	1	27	12	4	5
31	1	1	5	20	1	1	2	6	4	20	18	40	140	1	28	12	4	4
31	31	183	652	31	23	57	181	100	584	638	1,272	4,290	25	713	369	115	130	

Shaik Banker, Peon, one day sick.

Urshed Ally, Ditto, one do. do.

Mohamed Ruffie, Ditto, one do. do.

The Publick Tanks are in the same state as reported last month.

(Signed)

J. TWEEDALE,

Overseer.

CALCUTTA,

4th February, 1837.

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2d. Lieut.
Superintendent of Roads and Conservancy.

N. B.—The Overseers of the Four Divisions of the Town, send in
each a Monthly Report similar to this.

Z. 18.

Strand Division Daily Report for January, 1837.

	Date.	Roller Bullocks.	Box Carts.	Coolies.	Doomes.	Peons.	Sirdar.	Bheesty.	Roller Bliestees.	
January,	1	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	<p>No daily Report of this is received.</p> <p>W. ABERCROMBIE, 2d. Lieut.</p> <p><i>Superintendent of Roads and Conservancy.</i></p>
	2	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	3	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	4	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	5	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	6	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	7	20	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	8	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	9	0	9	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	10	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	11	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	12	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	13	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	14	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	15	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	16	10	10	30	2	5	1	1	2	
	17	10	10	44	2	5	1	1	2	
	18	10	9	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	19	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	20	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	21	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	22	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	23	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	24	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	25	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
	26	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	27	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	28	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	29	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	30	0	10	42	2	5	1	1	0	
	31	10	10	42	2	5	1	1	2	
		230	308	1,300	62	155	31	31	42	

CALCUTTA,

(Signed)

S. CLARK.

1st. February, 1837.

Z. 19.

Return of Works performed on the Esplanade on the 2nd January, 1837.

Where employed.	Pair of Bullocks.	Mollies.	Coolies.	Leng	Brea	pth	Box Ca	Sirdar.	S	of Koah	Bhieatec	Remark.
Childrens' Walk and all Division.	3	6	30					1	1	20		Establishment repairing Drains south of the Jail, filling up holes in the Coolie Bazar, and Midaun. Carts Do. Do. Mollies repairing Walk.

No Monthly Report of this is received

(Signed) H. G. STATHAM,
*Overseer.*W. ABERCROMBIE, *2d. Lieut.*
Superintendent of Roads.

Z. 20.

Khoa Depots.*Under the Superintendent of Roads.*

Coilah Ghaut Depôt,	2 Peons.	}			
Mowla Ally Durgah Depôt,	2 Do.				
Manicktolla Depôt,	1 Do.				
Aherytollah Ghaut Depôt,	1 Do.		10 Peons at 5	52	0 7
Baug Bazar Ghaut Depôt,	1 Do.		1 Supervisor,	42	0 0
Strand Division,	2 Do.				
Esplanade,	1 Do.				

Under the Executive Officer.

Coilah Ghaut Depôt,	2 Peons	}	6 Peons at 5	31	6
Mowla Ally Durgah Depôt,	1 Do.				
Manicktollah Depôt,	1 Do.		* 8 Mate Coolies and 1 Brick-	41	4 4
Aherytollah Depôt,	1 Do.		layer Mistry for all Depôts,		
Baug Bazar Depôt,	1 Do.				

* In place of 8 Mate Coolies and 1 Bricklayer Mistry Mr. Sevestre has employed 5 Sircars for measuring and receiving Khoa from all Depôts.

Z. 21.

List of Streets lighted by the Conservancy Department.

1st or Upper North Division.	Nimtollah Ghaut,	2	20
	Juggernoth Ghaut,	9	
	Cornwallis Square,	4	
	Ditto Ghauts,	4	
	Hindoo Burning place, Nimtollah,	1	
2d or Lower North Division.	Cossinath's Ghaut,	19	67
	Old Fort Ghaut,	3	
	College Square,	4	
	Ditto Ghauts,	4	
	Mirzapore Square,	4	
	Ditto Ghauts,	4	
	Smith's Ditto,	2	
	Old Fort Street,	4	
	Writers' Building,	4	
	Court House Lane,	1	
	New China Bazar,	4	
	Ditto Street,	1	
	Swallow Lane,	1	
	Sooke's Lane,	2	
	Dr. Nusky's shop,	1	
	Rada Bazar Street,	2	
	D'Souza's Lane,	2	
	Chattawallah Lane,	3	
	Loll Bazar,	2	
3d or Upper South Division.	Coilah Ghaut,	3	87
	Ditto North side Chandpaul Ghaut,	9	
	Tank Square	4	
	Ditto Ghauts,	4	
	Tank Square, North side,	2	
	Wellington Square,	4	
	Ditto Ghauts,	4	
	Ditto Bank,	2	
	Ditto Gate,	2	
	Loll Bazar, South-East and West corners,	2	
	Grant's Lane,	2	
	Ditto opposite,	2	
	Ditto inside,	3	
	Weston's Lane,	2	
	Cooper's Ditto,	1	
	Zig Zag Ditto,	2	
	Mangoe Ditto,	2	
	Ditto opposite,	2	
	Ditto inside,	4	
	Ditto West corners,	2	
	Emaumbaug Lane,	2	
	Gibson's Lane, East corners,	2	
	Ditto South Ditto,	2	
	Ditto inside,	2	
	Sooterkin's Lane,	2	
	Ranee Moody Lane,	4	
	Ditto inside,	2	
	Waterloo Street,	4	
	Ditto Lane,	3	
	Meredeth's Lane,	2	
	Nunkoo Jamadars, Lane,	2	
	Ditto opposite,	2	
	Crooked Lane West corners,	2	
	Ditto North Ditto,	1	
	Ditto inside,	5	
	Jebb's Lane,	2	
	Cossitollah,	2	
Carried Over,		99	

List of Streets lighted by the Conservancy Department.—(Continued.)

[illegible]

Z. 22.

List of Tank Establishment.

			Rs.	A.	P.		Before the Reduction in 1831 it was,
1 Naib, ..	..	...	67	0	0	5 Tanks on Chowringhee Plain now embodied with Esplanade Guard.	67 Rs.
12 Burkandazes, ...	..	...			
1 Sirdar, ...	..	6 0 0					
4 Mollics, ...	..	20 0 0					
3 Do. ...	..	1 2 0	49	8	0	Tank Square.	96 Rs.
2 Chowkeydars, ...	..	10 0 0					
Oil and Implements, ...	..	1 8 0					
1 Sirdar, ..	..	...	27	0	0	Wellington Square.	64 Rs.
3 Mollics, ...	..	...			
2 Chowkeydars, ...	..	...			
1 Sirdar, ..	..	...	17	0	0	Wellesley Square.	25 Rs.
1 Molley, ..	..	...			
2 Chowkeydars, ...	..	...			
1 Sirdar, ..	..	...	17	0	0	Cornwallis Square.	21 Rs.
1 Molley, ...	..	...			
2 Chowkeydars, ...	..	...			
1 Sirdar, ...	..	...	17	0	0	College Square.....	25 Rs.
1 Molley, ..	..	...			
2 Chowkeydars, ..	..	...			
1 Sirdar, ..	..	...	21	0	0	5 Tanks in Hastings' Place.	21 Rs.
2 Mollics, ...	..	...			
2 Chowkeydars, ..	..	...			
1 Molley, ..	..	...	9	0	0	Mirzapore Tank... ..	9 Rs.
1 Chowkeydar, ...	..	...			
1 Chowkeydar, ..	..	...	4	0	0	Soortie Bagaun Tank.	4 Rs.
1 Molley, ...	..	...	4	0	0	Burying Ground... ..	4 Rs.
1 Molley, ...	..	...	4	0	0	Middleton Row Tank, (recently abolished).	4 Rs.
51			Rs. 236	8	0		340 Rs.

Report on the Executive Management of the Conservancy in Calcutta.

Having found considerable difficulty in conducting the duties of my Office since my appointment to it, and finding myself in an unpleasant and awkward situation from the footing on which I find myself in the Conservancy Department, I beg leave to submit the following remarks to the consideration of the Chief Magistrate, requesting, if he approve the amendments therein desired, that they may be carried into execution ; and if they be disapproved by him, or objections be raised to them by other Magistrates, that they may be forwarded to the Right Honourable the Governour of Bengal, whose favourable consideration I respectfully solicit ; more especially as I do not believe that I have in them applied for any authority which it was not his Lordship's intention to confer upon me, when he made my services available to the Town of Calcutta.

2nd. At present, with the exception of the buildings going on, and the employment of the Establishment, I have no superintendence of Conservancy—all matters connected with the state of the Roads and Drains are referred by the Inhabitants to the Magistrates, and there are a set of men called Conservancy Sircars employed in the Town quite independent of me in every way, who also make their Reports, with the exception of petty repairs required, to the Magistrates.

3rd. These Reports after examination by a Magistrate, are referred by him to the Overseer or to me for examination or farther report, as he pleases. Frequently they are referred first to the Overseer and then to myself. The Overseers also make a number of Reports direct to the Magistrates, of which I hear nothing, unless they be referred to me for Report : in the designation of Superintendent of Conservancy therefore is at present a misnomer ; I am but a Referee.

4th. The direct communication between the Magistrates and Overseers, also, without any previous reference to me, has a tendency to lessen my authority over them ; and I speak from experience when I say, that I have by no means the same efficient authority over these Overseers that is possessed by an Officer in the Department of Publick Works over his.

5th. Many cases are referred to the Overseers by the Magistrates which I never see, which had they been referred to me, would probably have been reported on in a different manner to which they actually are—this leads to a total abolition of system.

6th. Many cases are referred by the Magistrates to me, which had they come to me in the first instance, I might probably have settled without farther reference, on visiting the spot myself.

7th. Many cases are referred to me by the Magistrates, which bearing their request for an examination and report, frequently after the same by an Overseer, oblige me to proceed myself to the spot : whereas had they been referred to me in the first instance, I in many instances could have settled them in my Office, or referred them to the Magistrates for investigation with as complete a report from thence, as I could prepare after visiting the place. This I should be able to do from the twelve month's experience I have had in visiting places on several hundred cases referred to me by the Magistrates. It is needless to say that the Magistrates themselves, with the exception of the Chief Magistrate who in peculiar cases sometimes views the locality, never examine the site of Conservancy cases themselves. This continual reference I find,

* Rather a petulant expression in relation to Magistrates.

(Sd.) C. K. R.
W. C. B.

if I may use a common Conservancy expression, a complete *nuisance*.* I have stated that I find myself obliged from the nature of the reference to visit almost every place myself, the case connected with which is referred to me, and the consequence is, that I have continually a number of these cases on hand, and am employed morning after morning driving about to different parts of the

Town, marking out entrance bridges to houses, lining out boundary walls, &c. &c. when my time could be much more usefully employed inspecting the repairs of the Roads, the works carrying on by the Executive Officer, the Gowkhanas, and the employment of the Establishment.

8th. To remedy the above—I ask that I may be placed in charge of my own appointment : that is, that I may have the same controul over the Conservancy Establishment that the Superintendent of Police has over the Police of the Town.

9th. In the first place I request that all the Conservancy Establishment may be placed completely under my controul, with the same powers of entertainment and dismissal, reward and punishment, (excepting the Executive Officer who is appointed by Government) that are granted to the Superintendent of Police.

10th. I also request that these Establishments may in all cases report to me, and that they may have no further communication with the Magistrates than is necessary in their giving evidence before them.

11th. I also request that Petitions presented to the Magistrates requiring reference in their opinion, may be referred not to the Overseers or Establishment, but direct to me for report, it being left to my own judgment to determine the necessity of my proceeding to the site of the case myself, or framing my report from that of the Overseers or other

Establishment; it of course being understood that if a Magistrate thinks proper to decide a case himself at once that there is no necessity for his referring it to me.

12th. Lastly, I should wish that the Magistrates may be requested to refrain from granting licenses to deposit building materials in the Streets and enclose portions of the publick Road, until the several petitions on the subject have been referred to me for report. The reason of this is, that many people obtain licenses for long periods, obstruct the Streets while delaying their buildings, and obtain a second license when the Magistrate has forgotten that he had granted the first.

13th. The First Regulation will cause my authority to be respected, whereas at present I have not even the power of removing an Overseer from one Division to another, nor affecting his salary in any way, without a tedious form of complaint and investigation before the Chief Magistrate on a matter which I may have myself already thoroughly examined into.

14th. The Second and Third will, in addition to the above, expedite business by enabling me to dispose of cases in the quickest manner, and leave me leisure to attend to the direct duties of my superintendency.

15th. I do not know whether the last may be considered likely to delay business, but I believe that it will tend to prevent unnecessary obstructions in the Streets.

16th. I trust that the propositions herein contained may not be deemed unreasonable, as they are not intended in any way to supersede the controul exercised by the Chief Magistrate over the Police Establishment in all Departments, but are merely desired to facilitate business and render my superintendency more effectual, by removing the necessity of constant reference to superior authority in minor matters, which cannot be necessary if that confidence can be placed in my discretion which I might naturally expect my situation in the service to obtain for me, although not endued with Magisterial authority.

17th. In conclusion, I beg leave to quote the 53rd paragraph, and 5th section of 57th paragraph of Mr. McFarlan's Letter to the address of Mr. Mangles, Secretary to Government, dated 12th May, 1835. The former of which shews that the Government granted an Engineer Officer in the Conservancy Department on the understanding that he was to be on the same footing in the Conservancy Department that the Superintendent of Police was in his; and the second shews that the Magistrates were to be relieved from all "Executive functions," or interference with the Executive Establishment in the Conservancy Department; whereas the stress laid on the "talent and energy of the highly qualified" description of Officer called for, compared with the very limited authority conceded to me even in the secondary duty of "training Scavengers," would seem now to imply that while an Engineer had been granted by the Government, the qualities required had not been obtained. I need hardly say that I feel my situation under these circumstances not only unpleasant, but one in which I do not believe it was the intention of Government to place me.

(Signed)

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2nd Lieut.

Supt. Roads, Conservancy, and Publick Works.

Calcutta, 6th April, 1837.

Extract of a Letter dated 12th May, 1835, by Mr. McFarlan to the address of Mr. Mangles, Secretary to Government.

"53rd. The sum thus saved should go to constitute the Salary, or part of it, of an able Engineer Officer, to be vested with the entire executive Management of the large Conservancy establishment now maintained—this Officer acting as Captain Steel does, under the general controul of the Chief Magistrate."

"57th.—5th. Sec. The desirableness of separating the Judicial from the Executive functions, seems to be admitted on all hands. The chief pursuits of Magistrates are, or ought to be, very different from those connected with drilling Watchmen, or training Scavengers. In the case of Mr. Trower and myself we can only give partial and uncertain attention to the details of the Executive branch of the Publick duty. Mr. Trower gives attendance for only two days in each week, and I, though I attend daily, am liable at all times to be called away to the consideration of some important matter that presses urgently at the time. I think that I am justified in expecting a great improvement to result to the cleanliness of the Town, from the exclusive application of the talent and energy of an highly qualified Officer to this particular branch of duty."

(True Extract)

(Signed)

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2nd Lieut.

Supt. Roads, Conservancy, and Publick Works.

CALCUTTA,
6th April, 1837.

*At a Meeting of the Magistrates, held at the Police Office, on Saturday, the
29th April, 1837,*

Present,—

D. M'FARLAN, Esq.

C. K. ROBISON, Esq.

W. C. BLAQUIERE, Esq.

and

A. ST. L. M'MAHON, Esq.

P. O'HANLON, Esq.

Read Lieutenant Abercrombie's Papers on the subject of the Conservancy Establishment, dated the 6th April, instant. The following Resolutions on the specific points adverted to in the 8th paragraph are passed and recorded :—

PARA. 8th. "I request that I may be placed in charge
"of my appointment; that is, that I may have the same
"controul over the Conservancy Establishment, that the
"Superintendent of Police has over the Police of the Town."

The Magistrates resolve, that this requisition is at variance with the Law.

"33rd. Geo. 3rd. cap. 52, § 158."

"And, whereas by an Act of the first year of the reign of
"His late Majesty King George the First entitled an Act for
"making the Laws for repairing the Highways more effect-
"tual, provision was made for authorizing Justices of the
"Peace in Cities and Market Towns, at their General or
"Quarter Sessions to appoint Scavengers for cleaning and
"repairing the Streets of the same, and to raise money by
"Assessments, for defraying the expenses thereof. And where-
"as by an Act passed in the seventh year of the reign of
"His present Majesty, to amend and reduce into one Act
"the Statutes for the amendment and preservation of the
"Publick Highways, it was enacted, that the said recited
"Act of the first year of King George the First should be
"repealed. And, whereas it is essentially necessary for the
"health, as well as for the security, comfort, and convenience
"of the Inhabitants of the Towns and Factories of Calcutta,
"Madras, and Bombay, in the East Indies, that the Streets
"therein should be regularly and effectually cleansed, watch-
"ed, and repaired; be it thereof enacted, that it shall and
"may be lawful to and for the Justices of the Peace within
"or for the Presidencies of Fort William, Fort St. George, and
"Bombay respectively, for the time being, or the major part
"of them from time to time assembled at their General and
"Quarter Sessions, to appoint Scavengers for cleansing the
"Streets of the said Towns or Factories of Calcutta, Madras,
"and Bombay, respectively, and to nominate and appoint
"such persons as they shall think fit on that behalf, and also
"to order the watching and repairing of the Streets therein
"as they respectively shall judge necessary, &c".

The Chief Magistrate further remarks that it is inconsistent with the letter of the Resolutions of Government of the 12th October, 1830, Para. 21st; but that he nevertheless conceives that the request is just and proper, and that the Law should be altered, as well as the Resolutions of Government.

PARA. 9th. " I request that all the Conservancy Establishments may be placed completely under my controul, with the same powers of entertainment and dismissal, reward and punishment (excepting the Executive Officer who is appointed by Government) that are granted to the Superintendent of Police."

The same Resolution applies to this request.

PARA. 10th. " I also request that these Establishments may in all cases report to me, and that they may have no farther communication with the Magistrates than is necessary in their giving evidence before them."

The same Resolution applies to this request.

PARA. 11th. " I also request that Petitions presented to the Magistrates requiring reference in their opinion, may be referred not to the Overseers or Establishment, but direct to me for report, it being left to my own judgment to determine the necessity of my proceeding to the site of the case myself, or framing my report from that of the Overseers or other Establishment; it of course being understood that if a Magistrate thinks proper to decide a case himself at once, that there is no necessity for his referring it to me."

The same Resolution applies to this request

PARA. 12th. " Lastly, I should wish that the Magistrates may be requested to refrain from granting Licenses to deposit building materials in the Streets and enclose portions of the Publick road, until the several Petitions on the subject have been referred to me for report: the reason of this is that many people obtain licenses for long periods, obstruct the Streets while delaying their buildings, and obtain a second license when the Magistrate has forgotten that he had granted the first."

The same Resolution applies to this request.

The Chief Magistrate remarks in addition, that the kind of Petitions alluded to, should be better defined. A custom has crept in, by which many Petitions are presented to the Magistrate which need not be so presented. A person building on the edge of a Road or Lane applies to the Magistrate to mark the line for him. It seems clear to the Chief Magistrate that the application might be made at once to the Superintendent and disposed of by him. In the same manner by a slight alteration of the Law, the executive administration of granting licenses to deposit building materials on the Roads might be left entirely in the hands of the Superintendent, infractions of the Law only being brought before the Magistrates for trial.

(Signed) D. M'FARLAN,

Chief Magistrate.

Having inquired of Messrs. Blaquier, M'Mahon, and Robison if they would sign this Paper, they declined doing so, and stated that they thought it sufficient if the purport of it were communicated to Lieut. Abercrombie.

Mr. O'Hanlon is absent from ill health.

(Signed) H. C. WATTS,

18th May, 1837.

Judicial Department, }
30th May, 1837. }

(True Copies,)

R. D. MANGLES,

Sec. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Z. 24.

A Report on the Conservancy of the Town, by Lieut. W. Abercrombie, submitted to Government through the Chief Magistrate.

To R. D. MANGLES, ESQ.

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward a Report by Lieutenant Abercrombie on the Conservancy of the Town. This Report is rather long, and I am unwilling to lengthen it by detailed remarks ; I have however taken the liberty to insert in red ink a few short notices in the margin of the Report. These remarks have been seen by Lieutenant Abercrombie.

In general I think the suggestions of Lieutenant Abercrombie entitled to consideration, and accordingly submit them.

I have, &c.

CALCUTTA POLICE OFFICE
31st May, 1837.

(Signed) D. M'FARLAN,
Chief Magistrate.

To D. M'FARLAN, ESQ.,

Chief Magistrate.

SIR,

I have the honour to request your forwarding the accompanying Letter, No. 1, dated 23d May, 1837, to the address of R. D. Mangles, Esq. for submission to the Governour of Bengal.

I trust that Mr. Mangles' Letter of the 23d instant, received to-day, will not prevent the forwarding of mine, which has been some time drafted, and has been delayed in the copying, although the first part of my Letter applies to the Report which was submitted by you to the consideration of the Magistrates, and on which nothing will be decided by Government until they have received the Report of the Committee of Municipal Inquiry. It is still expedient that it should be sent on, as I cannot remember having had an opportunity of explaining to the Committee the details therein contained, which were required to accompany my Report when sent to Government, although not necessary to be attached to it before it had left the Police Office.

In the latter part of my Letter I have drawn up a Report I was desired to make out by the Right Honourable the Governour, with as little delay as possible, on my being appointed to my present situation.

CALCUTTA,
29th May, 1837.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. ABERCROMBIE, *Lieut.*
Supt. Roads, Conservancy, and Publick Works.

To R. D. MANGLES, ESQ.

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Calcutta, 23d May, 1837.

SIR,

Having since my appointment to the superintendence of Conservancy in Calcutta, found it impossible in the situation in which I stand in the Department to carry on the duties of my Office in what I should consider an efficient manner, I forwarded to the Chief Magistrate, on the 6th ultimo, a Report on the Executive Management of the Conservancy in Calcutta, in which I stated my objections to the present system of management, with the amendments I thought required: these amendments were by Mr. M'Farlan submitted for the consideration of the other Magistrates, and owing to their opposition, rejected. I have reason to believe that the Chief Magistrate, who is more concerned in them than any other, is rather favourably disposed towards them: under these circumstances, I am under the necessity of coming before His Excellency the Governour of Bengal, whose attention to my remarks I respectfully solicit.

2. By the Resolution of Government, dated 12th October, 1830, it appears on the 21st paragraph, that it is expected by the Governour General in Council that the duties of the Conservancy will continue as heretofore to receive the especial attention of the person holding the office of Chief Magistrate, and that he will exercise an active and personal superintendence over the Establishment kept up. The Chief Magistrate's Letter, however, to your address, of 12th May, 1835, in paragraph 53, and section 5 paragraph 57, states the desirableness of separating the Judicial from the Executive functions, and applies for an Officer of Engineers for the sole purpose of performing the latter, under his general controul, and to be vested with this management in the same manner as Captain Steel. The 6th paragraph of the above Resolutions shews that the Superintendent of Police, "a Military Officer, not a Magistrate," had the power of entertainment and dismissal over all his Establishment, European and Native, not appointed by Government. My appointment to the superintendence of Conservancy was owing to the Chief Magistrate's application above mentioned.

3. Under the present system of management, not only does the Superintendent of Conservancy not possess the powers mentioned above, but a considerable portion of the Conservancy Establishment are not under his orders at all. Those I chiefly allude to, are a set of men called the Conservancy Sirkars, of whom there are twenty allowed, each having a Peon. These people are entrusted with the preservation of the publick thoroughfares from encroachment, and all cases of encroachment they choose to report, they report to the Magistrates, under whose controul they are, and to whom they are responsible. Reports of repairs required they of course make to me. This reporting to the Magistrates, when it occurred in Police cases, it would appear from No. 7 of the formerly quoted Resolutions of Government, was considered as liable to entail on them an unnecessary degree of trouble; their relief from which, by the Superintendent of Police, was considered an advantage. Under the Chief Magistrate's recommendation that the required Superintendent of Conservancy be on the same footing as the Superintendent of Police, I refer this remark, by analogy, to the Conservancy Department.

4. In addition to the above Establishment, who are independent of me in every way, the Overseers—the Scavengers who have the direct charge of the cleanliness of the Town in their Divisions, to effect an improvement in which the Chief Magistrate most especially desired the controul of an Engineer Officer—make many reports to the Magistrates, without any reference to me; many of which reports are decided without my being ever made aware of the cause of complaint; some are referred to me by the Magistrates for my opinion, and in nine cases out of ten I view the locality. I do this out of deference to the Magistrates, though I could frequently determine the matter as well at my own desk as on the site of the report; and did I do so, would have time in the morning to inspect the works supposed to be in progress under my superintendence, instead of being fully employed in marking out entrances over Drains to Native Huts, in which the experience of the Overseers might well be made available.

5. Of the Reports that are referred to me, on which I give opinion, I have no means of knowing whether my opinions are acted upon or over-ruled—there is a separate Office in the Police Establishment called the Judicial Conservancy Office, through which I receive the references, and in which Office they are deposited by the Magistrates after being determined upon. In many instances the cases sent me do not bear even the common courtesy of the Magistrate's signatures, but are "true copies" certified by a Native Clerk, or East Indian writer.

6. I have more than once found considerable inconvenience from the orders of a Magistrate to an Overseer clashing with mine, and it is, in fact, impossible that business can be properly carried on when the Executive Department are liable to

Proposed to be abolished,
See Chief Magistrate's
annual Reports of 1832
and 1834.—
(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN,
C. M.

Proposed to be abolished
as above.

(Sd.) D. M'F.

contradictory orders from different persons. I submit, that under the circumstances above detailed, I have not the superintendence of the Conservancy to the extent, that there is reason to believe, it was the intention of Government to confide to me.

7. In my Report to the Chief Magistrate, referred by him to the other Magistrates, I stated the propriety of Licenses to enclose portions of road not being granted without reference to me. In looking over the Bye-Laws of the Town, I find that by the 11th Section of the Bye-Law, registered in the Supreme Court, 25th November, 1780, and cancelled by Government on 8th January, 1781, these Licenses were granted by the Superintendent of Roads, or Surveyor as he was then called. I believe it would prevent unnecessary encroachment were these Licenses again subjected to the controul of the Superintendent, and granted by him. I have had the superintendence of Roads before receiving charge of those in Calcutta, and certainly before coming here, should have felt surprise at any Magistrate granting a License to encroach temporarily on them, while they were under my charge. I cannot see the necessity for it here; and under the support of the old Bye-Law, would submit, that it was not always considered necessary.

I think so.
(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

8. I have thus stated what I consider objectionable in the present Executive Management of the Conservancy: the remedies I have already proposed in the Report submitted to the Magistrates, which, as I understand it to be the intention of Mr. M. Farlan to forward it to Government, I need not repeat here—It has been, and the reply has been obtained, (Sd.) D. M. FARLAN, Chief Magistrate's letter of 12th May, 1835.—their effect would be to vest the Superintendent of Conservancy, "with the entire Executive Management of the large Conservancy Establishment now maintained."

9. These remedies the ordinary Magistrates have objected to on the ground of their illegality, as they are opposed to the letter of the Act of Parliament 33 Geo. 3d Chap. 52, Sec. 158; these objections are the more extraordinary, that they do not appear to have been urged before, when the provisions of that Section were set aside, as far as regarded the watching of the Town, by the Government Resolutions of 12th October, 1830, by which the appointment of Watching Establishment was vested in the Superintendent of Police, a Military Officer, not a Magistrate. I cannot however recognize the validity of these objections, even upon their legality. The Act 26, Geo. 2d appoints the Governour, or President and Council of Fort William the Justices of the Peace for the Settlement; the Governour in Council is therefore perfectly competent to approve of Scavengers appointed by the Superintendent of Conservancy; and it appears to me, that it is not for a Magistrate of Calcutta to say, that the Governour in Council shall not approve of the appointment of Scavengers in the same manner that he does of Constables, &c. included in the Police Establishment—a watch of the Town; that is, that he is not as competent to allow the Superintendent of Conservancy to appoint and dismiss Scavengers, as he is to allow the Superintendent of Police to appoint and dismiss Constables.

10. In addition to this, I am very certain that none of the present Scavengers were appointed in Quarter Sessions. Allowing that some of them were, others have been appointed by the present Chief Magistrate, without reference to the other Magistrates, and continue to hold their situations without the legality of their tenure being questioned. I did not expect the Magistrates, when my Report was submitted to them, to notice this proposition at all, considering it one with which they had no concern—the appointment of Scavengers resting with the Chief Magistrate, by Government Orders, with no more reference to the Act of Parliament than I ask in transferring the power of appointment to me. I merely expected their determination regarding the manner in which they would receive Conservancy Reports, and grant licenses.

11. Respecting the receiving Reports,—I understand the Magistrates look upon me as an Officer unknown to the law; this has not prevented continual references being made to me, at the same time, it shews the expediency of my being placed on a more decided footing, and my duties and responsibility being more distinctly defined than at present.

12. Regarding the Establishment as maintained at present, and the improvements to which it is liable, I forwarded the other day a Report to the Chief Magistrate, which has been submitted to Government: the only Establishment not noticed in that Report, are the Strand and Esplanade Establishments, in the Native part of which no alterations appear necessary.

Chief Magistrate's letter to the address of R. D. Mangles, Esq. dated 28th April, 1837, transmitted through the Military Board.

13. The Europeans under my orders consist of an Executive Officer, six Overseers, or Scavengers, and one Lighting and Watering Overseer.

14. The Executive Officer is employed in constructing and repairing Drains and other works in the Town; he also lays down the material on the Roads, which is brought from the Depôts by the Hackery Contractor, and charges the expense of so doing;—all his bills are passed by me, and it is considered part of my duty to see that his work is properly executed, and with good materials. On the Roads, his duty merely consists in laying down the material given him, except in the Strand Division and on the Esplanade; he is not to look to the goodness or badness of it, but is merely to lay it down properly. The Road material is supposed to be received by the Superintendent, and delivered over to the Executive Officer, as there is no other European attached to these Roads; the material is of course actually received and delivered at the several Depôts by the Native Establishment;—herein is an anomaly, which I am surprised should not have struck any of the Conservancy authorities. A separate Superintendent is required to inspect the work performed by the Exe-

cutive Officer in Building, on the principle, that a man should not give the final report on his own work. On the Roads, however, the Superintendent provides the material himself, which is merely laid on the Road by the Executive Officer. For my own credit I must say, that on joining the office I requested the Executive Officer to reject bad material, which he consented to do. The Superintendent receives the Khoa material from a Contractor, who has agreed to furnish a certain supply for a certain number of years.

15. Regarding the mode of measuring the Khoa, which at present is very faulty, I have already sent a report Chief Magistrate's letter of 12th April, 1837, to the address of R. D. Man- gles, Esq. to Government, recommending the construction of Pucka Reservoirs, the outlay for which will I trust be sanctioned.

16. Of the Overseers or Scavengers, four of them have charge of four Divisions of the Town, divided as the Police Divisions, with the Strand and Esplanade cut off: these four are responsible for the cleanliness of their Divisions, and bring to the notice of the Magistrates offences under the Bye-Law of 1814, as far as it relates to the Conservancy. They have been placed under my orders, and as far as the expenditure of money is concerned, are under my controul; two of them have charge of the Gowkhannas, in addition to their Divisions, and have to feed and take care of the Cattle, as well as repair Carts, &c.

17. Another has charge of the Esplanade, and is Conservancy Constable: he also lays down the material on the Esplanade Roads, with which, in ordinary cases, the Executive Officer has no concern.

18. Another has charge of the Strand Division, which extends from the Strand Road to Clive Street, Tank Square, and Durmahatta Street; he has the scavenging of the Division, and also the River scavenging, or Establishment for sinking bodies and filth; he also has charge of the Roads in his Division, and provides the material himself, not through the Contractor, for the remainder of the Town.

19. This Overseer, also, for the duty of landing stone ballast from ships, and preparing it as material for Roads in any part of the Town.

20. The remaining Overseer is over the Watering and Lighting, in the Watering Department; he merely has charge of the Esplanade, Chowringhee Road, and Chitpore Road, as far as the Aqueduct extends. The other Overseers, excepting two, have charge generally of the Watering in their Divisions. Of these, one in charge of the South Gowkhanna, was allowed to give up charge of the watering; and the other, the Esplanade Overseer, does duty as Muster Master, attending the musters in the morning, which take place of all the Conservancy Working Establishment;—on the Circular Road, at the end of Mochowa Bazar Street for the two Northern Divisions; and at the Moulalli Durga for the two Southern Divisions; the Strand and Esplanade Establishments muster by themselves.

21. My Report on the manner of obtaining the Conservancy Native Executive Establishment, is already before Chief Magistrate's letter, 28th April, 1837. Government.

22. I am aware that the Fever Hospital Committee now sitting, have made it a portion of their inquiry, to ascertain how far it might be practicable to introduce the system of scavenging by contract into Calcutta, which has been found to succeed so well in Great Britain. The system of contract the Committee have in view, is intended, I imagine, to be made and carried into effect, under the auspices of certain Government servants, or persons under the controul of Government, while superintending the operation of the contract, whether Police Magistrates, or a Board of Conservancy or Health.

23. Unless these contracts were entered into with men possessing considerable capital, or command of money, I do not see how they could be carried into effect; and I think it very doubtful that Natives of respectability would accept such contracts. That a European with money would enter into such a speculation, when there are so many better openings in a place like Calcutta, daily increasing in commercial prosperity, it appears to me preposterous to suppose. There is no managing a contract with a Native, unless a large deposit of money be obtained from him—the Khoa Contractor for Calcutta deposits a sum of six thousand (Sa. Rs. 6,000) Sicca Rupees. Now a contractor for a Division of Calcutta would be required not only to deposit his security, but to expend at once about six thousand rupees in Carts, Cattle, and Shelter, in addition to his advances and monthly expenses. I state this under the idea that the contract system is to provide for the cleanliness of the Town in a more efficient manner than is done at present. If the old system of Bengallee Hackeries and broken-winded Bullocks is to be reverted to, there will doubtless be many competitors for the contract; but the Streets will again become the receptacles of half the filth taken from the Drains, and the reciprocal receivers of each others dirt.

24. The reason that these contracts have succeeded in England is, that the refuse and dirt of Towns in that country are so very valuable; but of what value are they here? Little or no manure is used in the surrounding cultivation, and it frequently happens that there is a difficulty in obtaining places for the deposit of Town Dirt and Rubbish;—a considerable portion is thrown into the River, and where this cannot be conveniently done, the Contractor will

call on the Conservancy or Government authorities to point out places in which he is to deposit the dirt he has stipulated to remove.

25. The above are mere opinions on the probable success of an untried scheme. If, after mature consideration, a Committee who have collected a mass of evidence concerning the Conservancy of the Town, recommend its experimental adoption by Government, I am of opinion that the experiment should be tried; the necessity, however, of vesting the controuling body with a discretionary authority, similar to that granted to Commissioners under the Act 57, Geo. III. or "London Street Act," Chap. 29, Sec. 118, for compounding for breaches of contract, will be apparent.

26. Were this contract system, and other Conservancy measures proposed to be adopted, under the entire Municipal controul of the Citizens, independent of Government influence, I should propose that, that controul should at first be made experimental in a Division of the Town, in which the inhabitants should agree to take it. My own opinion is, that the European Community of Calcutta have not yet attained a sufficiently permanent state of existence to enable them to exercise an efficient controul in Municipal self-government. Among the Natives of the country, East Indians, Mussulmans, or Hindoos, there is undoubtedly much talent to be found, but I do not believe that a hundred years of British rule have imparted to them that energy which would be found necessary to uphold Institutions copied in principle from British examples.

27. At the same time it does not appear that the inhabitants themselves are particularly anxious to acquire Municipal self-controul: a few inhabitants, who may be found taking the lead at Publick Meetings, and dictating the Resolutions that are therein to be passed, may desire it for their self-aggrandizement; but I do not believe that the generality of the Community desire their attention to be distracted from their more immediate concerns. The real controuling power being thus inefficient, I would ask, what substitute could be obtained for the vigilant surveillance exercised by Government over their Establishment.

28. The constitution of the Municipal Committee will shew that the Publick take little interest in the important inquiries making by that Committee: all the European members except two, are salaried servants of the State; the vacancy occasioned by the departure for England of Mr. Rogers, was with difficulty filled up, and it was also with difficulty that a salaried Secretary to the Committee could be obtained. The Natives appear more interested than the Europeans, but they will not be entrusted with separate controul.

29. It appears to me, that it would be more likely to produce a feasible plan for the Municipal Improvement of the Town, were those persons whose duty it is to provide or suggest such improvement, under the knowledge that every European inhabitant of British India arrives in the country with the idea and hope of revisiting his Native land with competence or wealth; and also, considering the nature of the Government of the country, to found their plans of improvement on examples, which have succeeded in States whose Government approximates more in character to that of British India than that of Great Britain itself, and whose inhabitants are more under the influence of that centralizing system which "in Calcutta produces a cry on the Government for succour, on every occurrence of the least unusual nature." The cleanest and best organized Towns on the continent of Europe might be selected as examples, and inquiries made into their Municipal arrangements;—the Government could materially assist this inquiry by the purchase of books in which detailed accounts of Conservancy improvements, &c. are given.

30. To return to the European Conservancy Establishment in Calcutta—I think the Government will, without further explanation, understand, that the superintendence of the Roads, 120 miles in length, *has not been properly provided for.** The Establishment I would recommend in lieu, is as follows—

A Superintendent with full powers over all the Establishment, except the Executive offices.

An Executive Officer for Buildings. †

Two Overseers in charge of Gowkhannas. §

Four Scavengers, who will each have charge of a Division of the Town, divided exactly as the Police Division, including the Esplanade, and portions of the Strand Road now cut off. Two Road Overseers, each to have half of the Town, and superintend the landing and breaking of Stone Ballast in his Division, as well as the repairs of roads with Khoa or Stone.

*The roads are very good for a Town. Metropolitan Cities of England are not better off.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

† Kept to this alone on its present footing he would not have enough to do. Were the whole publick buildings added, the plan might answer.

(Sd.) D. M. F.

§ I think this hardly necessary. (Sd.) D. M. F.

31. The duties of the Scavengers will be the cleaning of the different Divisions under their charge, and the prevention of nuisances and encroachments in the Drains.

The Road Overseers will receive the Road material approved by the Superintendent, who employs an Establishment for the purpose of examining and measuring it at the Depôts—they will prevent the road-ways being obstructed by rubbish or dirt, and also put a stop to encroachments—the Scavengers and Overseers will report all matters to the Superintendent, and cases requiring investigation will be forwarded to the Chief Magistrate, or other authority provided.

The present Establishment consists of

	<i>Co's.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>As.</i>	<i>p.</i>
Mr. Statham, Esplanade,	104	8	0	
Mr. Clark, Strand,	168	8	0	
Mr. M'Culloch, Lower North Division and Gowkhanna,	177	13	10	
Mr. Green, Upper South Division and ditto,	167	3	2	
Mr. Tweedale, Upper North Division,	146	8	3	
Mr. Campbell, Lower South Division,	146	8	3	
Mr. Siret, Watering and Lighting,	73	5	10	
Total,	984	7	4	
Add to this the new Overseer proposed	100	0	0	
Total,	1084	7	4	

32. In the above I have included in the Salaries, the watering allowance of 16 rupees a month, allowed to certain Overseers for eight months in the year—present incumbents will of course retain their present Salaries, or at all events sustain no diminution. The new establishment proposed by me would be as follows,

In my report of 28th February, 1837, forwarded with the Chief Magistrate's letter of the 28th ultimo, I find I have proposed placing the repairs of the Roads under the Scavengers; this would be an improvement on the present system, but would not answer with the alteration in the Bye Laws, suggested in a following part of this letter. If, as I am about to recommend, the Bye Laws be made more severe and more explicit than at present, and the enforcement of their provisions insisted on, the Scavengers will be fully employed in attending to their legitimate duty.

2 Gowkhanna Overseers, at	160 Rs.	320
2 Scavengers, at	120 „	240
2 Ditto, at	100 „	200
2 Road Overseers, at	160 „	320
Total, Rs.	1,080	

33. The proposed scale provides promotion among the Scavengers, who may also look forward to the charge of a Gowkhanna—Gowkhanna Overseers, in addition to their salaries, are either provided with free quarters or receive House rent. The Road Overseers, after the present incumbents (I would appoint Messrs. Clark and Statham) I would recommend being selected from the Department of Publick Works, and not liable to dismissal by the Superintendent, as they, in common with Overseers in the Department, could, when it was found that they did not perform their duty efficiently under one officer, be sent to serve under another some few hundred miles distant.

34. The Conservancy Sirkars that I mentioned in the beginning of this letter were formerly twenty, and now seventeen in number. These men being under nominal Magisterial controul, are under no controul whatever; and they are generally believed to receive, in many portions of the Town, contributions from the inhabitants, trebling and quadrupling their salaries; the effects of the system may be seen more plainly in the Chitpore Road and Burra Bazar, during the middle of the day, than at other places; the Streets in those quarters are almost blocked up with temporary encroachments.

35. The Executive Officer is allowed eight Mate Coolies and twelve Peons, for superintending the measuring material for the Roads; Messrs. Clark and Statham are allowed two Sirkars and four Peons, the expense of the whole is,

17 Conservancy Sirkars, at Rs. 10	170	0	0
20 Peons, at 5	100	0	0
8 Mate Coolies,	32	0	0
12 Road Peons,	60	0	0
1 Sirkar (Mr. Statham's,)	10	0	0
1 Ditto (Mr. Clark's,)	6	0	0
4 Peons (Clark's and Statham's,)	20	0	0

Total, Company's Rupees 398 0 0

36. In lieu of these, I would propose eight Sirkars paid sufficiently well to make the loss of their situations a thing to be avoided for the sake of the salary alone; and the situation itself too valuable to be risked for a bribe. These Conservancy Sirkars should be under the Superintendent, and report all nuisances and encroachments they observe—the Scavengers and Overseers being hardly sufficient to observe all; to each Sirkar I would allow a Peon to assist him in his Division.

37. To the Road Overseers I would allow each two Sirkars, to assist them in preparing stone material, and receiving khaa for different Roads, and the same number of Peons as at present allowed to the Executive Officers and Messrs. Statham and Clark, between them.

The expense would be per Mensem,

8 Conservancy Sircars, at Rs. 30	..	..	..	Rs. 240 0 0
8 Ditto Peons, at .. 5	..	..	..	40 0 0
4 Road Sirkars, at .. 10	..	..	..	40 0 0
16 Ditto Peons, at .. 5	..	..	..	80 0 0
Total Company's Rupees				400 0 0

38. The modifications I have herein proposed, will be found not to clash with those in my former Report on the Chief Magistrate's letter 28th April, 1837, forwarded through the Military Board. Establishment, but rather to carry them on, in as much as they relieve the Scavengers of certain extra duties therein contemplated. I also therein proposed separate Overseers for the Gowkhannas, without whom my plan would not be feasible; and here I recommend, that in consideration of the increased number of pukka Roads in Calcutta, since the formation of the present Establishment, that a more efficient superintendence should be provided. I do not wish my own Road Establishment to be altered—they were remodelled some time since, with the sanction of the Chief Magistrate, after due consideration: they have given me satisfaction, and have caused great improvement in the quality of the material measured at the Depôts—this can be proved; and as I have no favourites, I can but regret it, should my not wishing to dispense with the services of those with whom I am satisfied, be considered as savouring of favouritism, when I recommend the removal of others; as far as regards the measuring, I have no more confidence in my own people than in the other Establishment, but then, as I have before reported, no precautions are taken respecting the measurement.

Certainly.

(Sd. D. M. FARLAN.

39. Having thus reported on the Conservancy Establishment, I beg leave to call his Excellency the Governour's attention to the existing Bye-Laws, for the Municipal Government of Calcutta, in the Conservancy Department.

40. The only law at present existing, is that of 28th October, 1814; in it the only provision against nuisance is in Sec. 2, and by it, any inhabitant of the Town may occasion whatever nuisance he pleases; and provided he removes it within four hours, he is beyond the operation of the law. The consequence of this laxity is, that the Streets are continually obstructed with dirt and rubbish—cart-loads of bricks, lime, and other goods are thrown on the Road opposite their destination, instead of being removed from the carts themselves to places where they are required—broad Roads, opposite merchants' warehouses, are sometimes two-thirds covered over with casks—horses and carriages are brought out of stables and washed in the Publick Streets, the latter frequently obstructing them completely when narrow, and always leaving a deposit of filth and dirty water, nobody being responsible for the nuisance, because nobody knows when the legal four hours commenced.

41. The crimes of throwing dirt into the Streets and washing carriages in them, are nuisances never even reported to the Magistrates, and the practises have become sanctioned by long usage, the Scavengers' Establishment picking up what dirt they find on the Road, instead of applying to the inhabitants to throw into the carts what has accumulated in their houses. The consequence of this is, that in the Native parts of the Town, a year's filth is frequently collected in one house, and thrown out altogether on the occasion of a marriage or other festival; and as Native marriages and festivals occur always at particular seasons, these internal periodical cleansings range throughout a whole district within a short space of time, and of course occupy a much shorter period in throwing the dirt out into the Street, than is required for its removal to a distance by the Scavengers' Establishment.

42. That portion of the section which relates to Drains, has also become a dead letter. All over the Native

I always thought that these cases had only to be brought forward to meet with adequate punishment by fine.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

These are punishable, and the resort to the Bench should be shewn to be ineffectual.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

parts of the Town, Privies are built with their outlets on the Drains, and these Privies being cleaned by their proprietors as seldom as possible, filth of the worst description accumulates and clogs up the only passages for the water-drainage of the Town. I have seen many Privies opening out on Drains which border Streets; those on chains which run between the different collections of huts and buildings composing the Native parts of the Town, are nuisances bad enough, but those on the very borders of the publick Streets, are surely too horrible instances of filthy abomination to be allowed to remain, when once brought to the notice of Government.

43. The Drains are also continually clogged with cow-dung, especially during the rains, when large masses that have been collected for sale or other purposes, burst their bounds, and of course find their way to the Drains: these occasion more labour than any nuisance I know of: they frequently cannot be removed until they have been baked by the sun into a crust.

44. There is one nuisance which appears to have escaped the powers of this * Regulation altogether; that is, the number of green, slimy receptacles of dirty water in the Town, half hole, half tank; these are to be found in hundreds, and are occasioned either by want of money to complete Tanks commenced, or by earth being removed to raise the floors of huts and houses. The quantity of vegetation and low jungle in the Native Town, is also unnoticed; in fact, from the whole of the Regulation it appears, that so long as Drains and Streets were kept free and clean, that no farther measures were deemed necessary towards the preservation of publick health in the Town.

45. With reference to Sections 3 and 4, I am not aware of the existence of any balconies, rails, &c. obstructing the passage of Streets; there are many encroaching over, and impeding the passage and cleansing of the Drains, and many houses have spouts from the roofs, which throw a considerable volume of water during rain, much to the inconvenience of passengers, and injury of the Road. In one or two places bay windows have been allowed. As to shambles and booths, they may be seen in every Bazar of the Town; and while they are a source of profit and revenue to the Conservancy Sirkars, may be expected to remain. In many narrow Streets the stable and other large doors opening outwards block the passage of the Street.

46. Encroachments below high water mark in the river Hoogly have become very common; so much so, that many of the inhabitants residing on the Strand consider the space left by the periodical reflux of the tide, as part of the property attached to their houses. These encroachments have lately attracted the notice and complaint of the Lottery Committee, but having arisen, in the first instance, from a license given by that Committee to deposit bamboos on a certain space West of the Strand Road, it is difficult to put a stop to them: if however the penalties of the 4th Section of the Bye-Law were enforced on some of the unlicensed offenders, I have no doubt but that the encroachments could be lessened.

47. The provisions of Section 5 are generally enforced, though there are many evident old encroachments in the Town which ought not to have been allowed, but which now very properly cannot be removed, as they have exceeded the limit of three months.

48. The evils above enumerated, have originated chiefly in the laxity of the Bye-Laws, and the utter absence of co-operation between the Police and the Conservancy; while it has been the interest of the Conservancy Sirkars and Street-keepers to withhold from the Magistrates the knowledge of the existence of encroachments which were to the Sirkars a profitable source of emolument. The Magistrates' Law withheld from themselves the assistance of the Police, in checking these encroachments. I complained of this want of assistance from the Police when I first joined my appointment, and was told that to assist the Conservancy was not the business of the Police, who were to attend to their own duties;—the Thannadars under such general instructions, have of course always understood that it was not their interest to make enemies of the Conservancy Sirkars, and that it was better for each class, separately, to enjoy its own opportunities of profit without interfering with each other.

49. I would not recommend a mere general order being given to the Police to assist the Conservancy Establishment, as a Native will always interpret a General Order his own way; but after making the alterations in the law, I shall hereafter specify, and allowing Street-keepers of equal salaries, and consequently of equal consideration to the Thannadars, I would propose, that in all cases of residence, and also defined cases of nuisance and encroachment, that the Street-keepers should be authorized to call upon the Police for assistance in causing the removal of nuisance, or prevention of attempted nuisance; and also prevention of encroachment; the matter to be reported to the Superintendent, and finally decided by the appointed Conservancy Judicial Authority. Can any one give a reason that a nuisance, (a Conservancy nuisance, that is offensive filth, or a dead dog) should have legal possession of a Publick Road for four hours?

50. The alteration I would propose in Section 2 would be to strike out the word "carriages," and the words "for the space of four hours" altogether from the first sentence. In the second sentence, commencing "Provided always," I would insert words to the effect, that no license shall be given until the licensing authority be satisfied that there is sufficient occasion for one; also that the license shall contain an injunction to owners of the land, &c. to whom it is granted, and builders employed by him, to remove within four days after the expiring of the license, or expiring of its renewal, if renewed, all material contained within the bounds of the license, whether bricks,

* Section.

There was of course great jealousy shewn against investing a Police with the power of invading private property.

(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN.

This I think is a mistake.

(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN.

Summons is always a more effectual remedy.

(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN.

The four hours' limitation does not in any respect apply to such matters. It is intended to secure a man against punishment for keeping his carriage waiting half an hour at his door.

(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN.

At present it might be refused on that ground.

(Sd.) D. M'FARLAN.

lime, &c. brought for building, or rubbish, &c. thrown out during the time of building or repair; this injunction being neglected, the owner and builders to be subjected to such penalty as the Government shall determine; say, a fine not exceeding twenty Rupees a day, after the time allowed. I have above submitted to the consideration of Government, whether the licenses shall be granted by Conservancy, Judicial, or Executive Authority.

51. I had omitted to state, that this injunction attached to license had become necessary, on account of many owners and builders in Calcutta having come to the conclusion, that it was the duty of the Scavengers' Establishment to remove rubbish thrown out during their repair, building, &c. from the long impunity they have enjoyed in obstructing the Streets with rubbish, and their habit of seeing such rubbish removed by the Conservancy carts. The Right Honourable the Governour will understand, what a tax upon the time and labour of the Establishment, the removal of this rubbish must be; and also how a driver (especially under the present contract system) may be induced to leave dirt on a Road, and remove rubbish from before the door of a man rich enough to repair or build a brick house, but sufficiently willing to be saved the expense of carrying away the refuse material.

52. I would also propose a separate Section or Clause (I know not the technical application of the terms, but their English meaning is sufficiently clear for this letter) in favour of carriages, which might still be allowed to remain four hours in one place, provided their contents were not thrown down into the Street and left there; and provided always, that they were not brought out into the Street to be washed and cleaned.

53. For the purpose of more effectually still providing against nuisance and dirt on the Roads, the Scavengers' Establishment should be organized; this could be done in continuation of my Report forwarded through the Military Board—the carts as well as coolies should be arranged in squads, and apportioned to different Districts in the Town; each driver or mate driver, to be provided with a bell, on hearing which the inhabitants should bring out their dirt to deposit in the carts. On a severe enactment against nuisance being promulgated and enforced, the Native inhabitants would see the necessity of adopting some more frequent system of cleaning than their present annual one, and would naturally be anxious to get rid of the dirt collected in their houses at once; to admit of this, I do not doubt that the Government would sanction the temporary hire of a number of extra carts. After the system had come into full operation, with the assistance of the Police, and the determined enforcement of the Law, in all cases of disobedience to its rules, I have little doubt but that the Conservancy Establishment would be able of themselves to manage more efficiently than at present, and that in a short time the calls upon the Police would become infrequent.

54. Instead of the fine of four annas, now usually awarded to persons whose Privies have been allowed to empty themselves into the Drains, I would propose an order directing all such as have doors opening out into Drains, to be at once closed with masonry, if the Privy be of masonry; and destroyed altogether, if merely of mats. I think if this measure were followed up by the Establishment of a few publick Tatties with cess-pools, that the example set by Government would have the effect of inducing house-keepers to open private cess-pools on their premises.

55. It would also occasion a great improvement in the Conservancy of the Town, were proprietors of publick Tatties required by a coercive enactment to dig cess-pools within a certain period after the passing of the Act, and to clean them out at certain periods, or close them until decomposition had taken place, after they had become offensive; also were no new licenses for publick Tatties granted, but under the condition of cess-pools being dug.

56. To put a stop to the nuisance of cow-dung falling into the Drains, which, with care might be prevented, the provisions of the proposed amended Section would be sufficient, provided they were enforced.

57. In order to put down the existing encroachments under Sections 3 and 4, I see nothing better than a proclamation, informing the inhabitants that any encroachments of the nature therein specified, existing after a certain date, will be removed by the Conservancy Department; and that the Superintendent of Conservancy has the power of removing all such encroachments as obstruct the passage of the Road, (or Drains, being a portion of the road) or tend to injure it.

58. I would also recommend a clause in favour of balconies and sun-shades, provided they are built not less than twelve feet from the ground; they are really necessary in this climate, and common sense has joined with humanity in rendering the Bye-Law in operation against them.

59. In order to bring Section 5 more efficiently into operation, I think it would be advisable to allow the head of the Executive Conservancy, the Superintendent, to give the notice required; any inhabitant deeming such

notice unjust, having the option of appeal to the Judicial Conservancy ; a Magistrate deciding a case, on which he has already issued a mandatory notice, appears in the situation of a judge and party in the matter at the same time ; it was not thought expedient to allow an Executive Officer to decide on his own work.

60. The only measures for which I have not proposed remedies, are the slimy Tanks and low jungle. To say that the Town would be much benefited by filling up the first, and cutting down the latter, and that the latter might be used partly to fill up the former, is to say, what no one will deny ; but the powers required to carry such measures into effect, including interference with the personal liberty and domestick economy of the inhabitants, are greater probably than would be conceded to a body composed merely of Magistrates, in a Town in which every publick act is referred to the Government, and when the Government is supposed to be mixed up with every order, and to sanction every measure. Here I think an example may be taken from the measures founded on the centralizing systems of continental powers of Europe, and that an authority may be created with defined but extensive powers, for the purpose of presiding over all Conservancy matters, and improving the publick health of the Town. If these great powers were found not to be used in a more arbitrary manner, or to interfere more with the domestick economy of the citizen, than is the case in Towns in Great Britain, I cannot see that any valid objection to them could be raised.

But how would people complain under this encroachment on private rights.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

61. The authority I allude to, is a Board of Conservancy and Health, to be composed of the Chief Magistrate, Superintendent of Police, and other members as required, consisting of Medical men, Chemists and Geologists, Engineers, Merchants, and Tradesmen—attendance to be ensured by an adequate remuneration—a majority to constitute a quorum—one of the members could act as Secretary, with a small additional remuneration—the Superintendent of Conservancy to have a seat at the Board, but no vote.

See how this bears on the Finance question. We want money to execute works not to pay counsellors.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

62. Common Conservancy cases might, as at present, be decided by the Chief Magistrate ; in peculiar cases, such as disputes regarding publick boundaries, and cases involving private property, there might be an appeal to the Board, whose decisions should be final.

This would never answer, the Board should be Executive, not Judicial.

(Sd.) D. M. FARLAN.

63. An authoritative body thus constituted, might be expected to suggest to the Government many valuable projected improvements in the Conservancy of the Town, requiring legislation ; I could instance means to be taken to prevent the frequency of fire, but that I am aware that the Government already have that subject under their consideration.

64. Connected with the consideration of the prevention of accidents by fire, is that of the entire manner of building throughout the Town ; for the controul of which, there is not, to my knowledge, a single enactment in existence. A Police case occurred the other day, in which it appeared that an owner of landed property in Calcutta was prevented plastering a wall he had newly built on the edge of his ground, when finished ; his neighbour refusing to allow him to put scaffolding on his, (the neighbour's ground) for the purpose, and threatening to build a compound wall which would prevent the windows of the house opening ;—a law forcing every man who built a pukka house, to border his ground with a boundary wall, would have rendered such a case impossible, and prevented a good deal of ill feeling.

65. In the Native part of the Town, many of the houses are built in a manner called " Kutchu Pucka," that is, with walls of burnt brick and mud cement ; these houses from want of care, and often from the poverty of their owners, soon get into a ruinous state, and having no cement but mud, their walls are easily penetrated by water, which after a few showers of rain occasions their fall ; these walls being on the borders of publick Streets and Drains, in many instances whole districts are sometimes flooded by their fall, the water not running off until the clogged Drain is cleared ; they also frequently fall on other houses and huts, and destroy them ; and in some instances loss of life has ensued. It is not uncommon in the rains to hear of twenty different walls having fallen in one day. Sufferers from these nuisances have no means of redress, except in an expensive suit in the Supreme Court : this nuisance has existed for years, and has been well known to exist, without the Government apparently deeming it expedient to authorize the Magistrates to put a stop to it. I should imagine that the Government would gladly concede full powers to take down ruinous walls to a Board constituted as I have recommended.

66. Under this Board, the Executive Conservancy might exercise an efficient, and much required controul over the Publick Markets in the Town.

67. As far as I can recollect, I have now reported on the whole system of Conservancy in Calcutta. This Report I was desired to send in on first receiving my appointment, but from the action of the system against which I complain, which conceals from the head of the Executive much of importance that is going on in the Conservancy Department, I have hitherto felt myself inadequate to submit a detailed Report. All that I have stated, I believe to be correct, though in many instances I must acknowledge my information from the above cause to have been from hearsay; it will however be acknowledged, that I have as many opportunities of hearing what is going on in the Conservancy, as most persons, from whom information could be expected. I trust it will not be supposed that I have touched on matters with which I have no concern.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. ABERCROMBIE, 2nd. Lieut.

Superintendent of Roads, Conservancy, and Publick Works, in Calcutta.

(True Copies)

R. D. MANGLES,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

6th June, 1837.

Z. 25.

A Report on the Conservancy Establishment, by Lt. W. Abercrombie, submitted by the Chief Magistrate to Government through the Military Board.

This Paper contains a proposal for modifying the Establishment at present employed in the Conservancy Department, with a view of constituting a regular system of management, to be followed by the Superintendent and Overseers, and of cleansing the Town as far as possible in an effectual manner, with as little expense as may be.

In this Paper I take no notice whatever of the repairs or charge of the Roads, or of the repairs of the Drains, but merely the cleansing them. Complaints of the dirty state of the Drains &c. are numerous, and frequently well founded, except that the complainants forget that they themselves are in the first instance the occasion for any ground of complaint, by using the Drains for purposes for which they were not intended, and for which they are not adapted.

The chief evil consists then, in the Conservancy of the Town being unequal to the wants of the inhabitants, and consequently no system of Management can be expected to give entire satisfaction with the present means of cleansing the Town, I mean with the present system of Drainage and Sewerage. At the same time, some improvement in the management may be expected to accrue from a stricter attention to details, and chiefly from making it the interest of the subordinate Native Establishment to pay attention to what is placed under their care, instead of as at present to neglect their public duty, for wages given by individuals on account of private work, at times when they can be absent from their duty without much probability of detection by the Overseer.

All the Subordinate Native Establishment are at present supplied by a Contractor, who is allowed a certain rate of pay for each grade, and receives the same, whether the work be performed well or ill; he of course makes a profit by deducting a certain proportion in his own favour from each grade.

The following will shew particulars of Establishment provided in 1835.

1835.	Box Carts.		Hackeries.	Sirdars.	Loading Coolies.	Drain Coolies.	Drain Boys.	Sirdar Mehters.	Mehters.	Sirdar Doomes.	Doomes.	Peons.	Sirkars.
	Company's Bullocks.	Hired Bullocks.											
Total allowed.....	160		100	4	120	640	120	4	48	4	16	24	4
Daily average supplied in 1835.													
Upper North Division,	0	21	29	1	41	124	23	1	11	1	4	6	1
Lower Do. Do.....	10	15	20	1	41	123	16	1	14	1	4	6	1
Upper South Do.....	1	23	29	1	41	132	22	1	12	1	4	6	1
Lower Do. Do.....	0	16	39	1	41	111	24	1	12	1	4	6	1
Total daily average of 1835..	11	75	117	4	164	490	85	4	49	4	16	24	4
Total number employed } in 1835.....	3,912	27,760	43,119	1,460	60,272	179,658	30,875	1,460	18,008	1,460	5,070		
Daily average in each Division from May till October,													
Upper North Division,	0	21	28	1	41	113	23	1	11	1	3	6	1
Lower Do. Do.	13	15	19	1	40	110	14	1	14	1	3	6	1
Upper South Do.	1	21	30	1	42	130	22	1	11	1	4	6	1
Lower Do. Do.	0	16	37	1	41	108	23	1	11	1	3	6	1
Daily average in each, Division in other (6) months,...													
Upper North Division,	0	21	30	1	40	139	22	1	11	1	3	6	1
Lower Do. Do.....	7	15	23	1	42	136	16	1	14	1	3	6	1
Upper South Do.....	1	25	29	1	41	133	22	1	12	1	3	6	1
Lower Do. Do.	0	16	39	1	41	114	24	1	11	1	3	6	1
Establishment recommended.													
Upper North Division,	36	0	0	0	36	125	20	1	11	1	4	6	1
Lower Do. Do.....	35	0	0	0	35	120	15	1	14	1	4	6	1
Upper South Do.....	40	0	0	0	40	130	22	1	12	1	4	6	1
Lower Do. Do.....	35	0	0	0	35	110	24	1	11	1	4	6	1

In recommending the above scale of Establishment, it will be observed, that I have taken the number that was actually employed in one year as my guide; and I expect a similar number, under different management, to perform the required duty better than it is performed at present.

I propose to do away altogether with a Contractor, and entertain a regular Establishment in each Division, paying the different grades the full amount in all cases allowed for each individual to the Contractor by Government, and in some cases more than is now allowed—there can surely be little difficulty in entertaining our own Establishment at an advanced rate, paying them better probably than private individuals are in the habit of doing.

The above recommended Establishment being on the scale of the old one, there are a few explanations necessary, as well as some modifications required.

I propose to do away with hired Hackeries altogether, as they are not adapted for Conservancy purposes, being in fact constructed for different carriage; and as asserted by Mr. Watts in a Paper on this subject drawn up by him, never hired in the Conservancy Department until they and the Bullocks that drag them are unfit for a Custom House load: one Box Cart is substituted for every two Hackeries. The Sirdars are entirely struck off the amended Establishment: they are men allowed to the Contractor for collecting Coolies, &c. and they, as well as the Contractor, make a deduction from the pay of the Coolies, &c. in their own favour. Why they should receive salary when the Contractor does not, I cannot say; at all events it is clear that there can be no use for them in the amended Establishment, as each Overseer is allowed a Sirkar.

The Carts above recommended are all large Carts; a smaller description however, drawn by one Bullock, has lately been tried in the Department, and found to answer extremely well. I would therefore alter the number above recommended to the following, the large Carts being drawn by Horses, and the smaller by Bullocks.

	Large Carts.	Small Carts.	Total.
Upper North Division,	20	20	40
Lower, ditto ditto,	20	20	40
Upper South ditto,	20	30	50
Lower ditto ditto,	20	20	40
Total,	80	90	170

One Driver out of every five should be a Mate, and receive an extra rupee per month.

The number of loading Coolies being one to each Cart, will be altered to correspond with this last arrangement.

Of the men reported as Drain Coolies, it must be explained, that in each Division about 25 are called Coolies, but are employed as Mates, and actually at present do nothing, under the pretence of superintending the work of others, excepting that they, I believe, are the people generally applied to by private individuals hiring the Conservancy Coolies; they receive no nominal pay above the Coolies, but the Contractor gives them the full allowance he receives from Government.

I would have 18 Mates to each Division, on an increased rate of pay, as each Overseer is allowed 6 Peons; each Peon has a Subdivision to superintend, and it will certainly be easy for each Mate to undertake the superintendence of one-third of the Peon's Subdivision, for the state of which he will be responsible.

	Coolies.		Mates.		Coolies.		Total.
Then in Upper North Division, ..	126	give	18	+	108	=	126
Lower ditto ditto, ..	120	..	18	+	102	=	120
Upper South, ditto, ..	130	...	18	+	114	=	132
Lower ditto ditto, ..	110	..	18	+	96	=	114
Total,	485	..	72	+	420	=	492

One Sirdar Doome appears enough for the whole Town.

The amended Establishment will therefore be.

Box Carts	Large	Horse,	80
Ditto,	Small	Bullock,	90
Coolies	Loading,	..	170
Ditto	Mates,	..	72
Ditto	Drains,	..	420
Ditto	Ditto	Boys,	81
Mehter,	Sirdar,	..	4
Ditto,	..	..	48
Doome,	Sirdar,	..	1
Doome,	..	..	16
Peons,	..	..	24
Sirkars,	..	..	4
Bheesties,	..	..	24

Bheesties have lately been found necessary in the two Southern Divisions of the Town, to wash out Surface Drains, &c., these will be added in, in finding the expense for 1835, to obtain a fair comparison as they are at present employed, and the comparison is between the systems, though a particular period of the old system is selected for convenience sake.;

It will now be understood, that I wish the New Establishment to consist of regular servants, and the dead and live stock to be bonâ fide Company's or Town property, which ever the case may be. The Establishments can be mustered every morning as usual and sent to their work—task-work being introduced wherever practicable; in general practice, however, I would recommend that each Mate and squad of Coolies had a particular extent of Drain placed under their charge, and that they were made responsible for the cleanliness of it: that so long as this was clean, and they attended muster every morning, nothing farther should be required of them; but that immediately any negligence were detected, on the Report of the Peon, to be verified by the Overseer himself proceeding to the spot, or by the observation of the Overseer himself in the first instance, they should be punished with fine or by discharge.

I would also recommend that the Superintendent should be empowered to punish by fine, and encourage by reward, any of the Native Establishment—neither fine nor reward exceeding a month's pay.

To compare the expense of the present Establishment with that recommended, I will first take the Establishment supplied in 1835 at the rates allowed to the Contractor.

3,912 Pair Co's. Bullocks at 365 per 168 Sa. Ra.	..	..	..	..	1,800	9	6
27,760 Do. Hired Do.	..	..	..	..	12,777	3	3
43,119 Hackeries, ..	..	..	365 per 108 Sa. Ra.	..	12,758	7	11
1,460 Sirdars, ..	..	..	60	..	240	0	0
60,272 Loading Coolies.	..	..	42	..	6,935	2	2
1,79,658 Drain do.	..	..	42	..	20,672	15	7
30,875 Drain Boys,	..	..	30	..	2,537	10	9
1,460 Sirdar Mehters,	..	..	60	..	240	0	0
18,008 Mehters, ..	..	..	48	..	2,368	2	9
1,460 Sirdar Doomes,	..	..	60	..	240	0	0
5,070 Doomes, ..	..	..	48	..	666	11	6
24 Peons, 12 months, at 5 Sa. Ra. per mensem,	..	..	..	..	1,440	0	0
4 Sirkars, Do. 6 Do. Do.	..	..	..	..	288	0	0

Total, Sa. Ra. .. 62,964 15 5

Add, as before explained, the pay of 24 Bheesties for 12 months, at 4 Rupees per mensem 1,152 0 0

Total, Sa. Ra. .. 64,116 15 5

Company's Ra. .. 68,391 6 10

There are at present on the Establishment 102 large Box Carts and 13 small; of the former, 15 are for Horses, and the remainder could be altered and adapted as required. 77 additional small Bullock Carts would be required to be made up.

There are in the Gowkhannas 29 Bullocks and 36 Horses, so that 61 of the former, and 44 of the latter, should be purchased as speedily as possible.

The immediate outlay would be,

77 Small Carts, at ..	Co's. Rs. ..	55 ..	4,235 0 0
61 Bullocks, at ..	.. ..	22 ..	1,342 0 0
44 Horses, at .. ..	.. ..	30 ..	1,320 0 0
77 Sets Bullock Harness, at ..	.. ..	13 ..	1,001 0 0
65 ditto, Horse Do. at ..	.. ..	13 ..	845 0 0
Total, Co's. Rs. ..			8,743 0 0

The value of the regulated Stock would be,

80 Large Carts, at ..	Co's. Rs. ..	85 ..	6,800 0 0
90 Small Do, at ..	.. ..	55 ..	4,950 0 0
80 Horses, at ..	.. ..	30 ..	2,400 0 0
90 Bullocks, at ..	.. ..	22 ..	1,980 0 0
170 Sets of Harness, at ..	.. ..	13 ..	2,210 0 0
Total, Co's. Rs. ..			18,340 0 0

The Salaries of the modified Establishment would be,

80 Horses with Syces, at ..	Co's. Rs. ..	16 per mensem,	1,280 0 0
90 Bullocks with Drivers, ..	.. ..	at 9 ..	810 0 0
34 Mate Drivers, ..	.. ..	at 1 ..	34 0 0
170 Loading Coolies ..	.. ..	at 3-8 ..	595 0 0
72 Mate Coolies, ..	.. ..	at 4-8 ..	324 0 0
420 Drain Coolies, ...	.. ..	at 3-8 ..	1,470 0 0
81 Do. Boys, ..	... ..	at 2-8 ..	202 8 0
4 Sirdar Mehters, ...	... ..	at 5 ...	20 0 0
48 Mehters, ...	... ..	at 4 ...	192 0 0
1 Sirdar Doome, ..	.. ..	at 6 ...	6 0 0
16 Doomes, ..	... ..	at 4 ...	64 0 0
24 Peons, ..	.. ..	at 5 ..	120 0 0
4 Sirkars, ..	.. ..	at 7 ..	28 0 0
24 Bheesties, ..	... ..	at 4-8 ..	108 0 0
Total Monthly Expense, 52,53 8 0			

Total Annual expense, 63,042 0 0

Add interest of outlay on Stock, which will of course more than cover the expense of turning Bullock Carts into Horse Carts.

6,800 Carts, at 12 per cent per Annum, ..	.. ..	816 0 0
4,950 Do. Do. Do. ..	.. ..	594 0 0
2,400 Horses, 25 ..	.. ..	600 0 0
1,980 Bullocks, 10 ..	... ..	198 0 0
2,210 Sets Harness, at 50 per cent, ..	.. ..	1,105 0 0

Total, 66,355 0 0

Former Expenditure, without taking into consideration wear and tear of Carts, &c.

at present in the Establishment, 68,391 6 10

Remainder in favour of New Establishment,

.. 2,036 6 10

Thus is obtained a decrease of expenditure of 2,000 Rupees, the interest at 4 per cent. of 50,000 Rupees, while the immediate outlay will be but 9,000 Rs. If the New Establishment herein recommended be approved of, it might be advisable to authorize the Superintendent to commence on it in one Division of the Town, say from 1st August. Until Horses, &c. can be purchased for the Division in which the new system will be first tried, I would recommend Bullocks being hired, but hired by the Conservancy, and housed and fed by them, and not received from a Contractor.

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2d. Lieut.

Superintendent Conservancy.

Calcutta Police Office, }
16th July, 1836. }

No. 2,062.

In continuation of my Report of 16th July, 1836, I now submit plans of the required alterations to the Gowkhannas, and estimates of their expense, prepared by the Executive Officer. Before proceeding with them, however, I must correct an inadvertency in the former Report.

Add annual allowance to Contractor for Tools,	480	0	0
Add shoeing 80 Horses, at 12 Rupees per annum,	960	0	0
and			
	Total,	1,440	0 0
Deduct 90 Loading Coolies, at 42 Rupees per annum,	3,780	0	0
	Total,	2,340	0 0
Former amount saving calculated,	2,036	6	10
	Total saving,	4,376	6 10
Reducing the annual expenditure to Co's. Rs.	64,015	0	0

The deduction is on account of the small Carts, the drivers of which load as well as drive.

The necessity of the alterations and additions required at the Gowkhannas, for the accommodation of Carts, &c. is self-evident. The additional ground required at the Northern Gowkhanna, contains 12 cottahs, 10 chittacks of ground, which should rent at 8 Rupees a cottah, per annum. It cannot be purchased, as the proprietor is unwilling to sell so small a portion of his land.

Regarding the Overseer's house, I beg leave to submit my Reports of 11th May, 1836, and 9th June, 1836, and also to state, that I inspected the house several times after preparing them, and saw that the floors during the rains were excessively damp. It is impossible that a European can live in it in its present state, and the best remedy I can think of, consistent with the additions required to the Gowkhanna, under a sanctioned revision of the Establishment, is to provide upper-roomed quarters, as shewn in Plates, I. and II.

At present the Overseer in charge of the Gowkhanna, receives 32 Rupees a month house rent.

All the accommodation in the Northern Gowkhanna being taken up by the increased number of Carts and Cattle, it is proposed that the Fire Engine and Water Carts, be removed to the Haidoa Tank, where 3 cottahs of ground being taken in, in addition to the number at present rented for, the pound will provide room for them at the expense detailed in the accompanying estimate, viz. Rs. 450 : 3 : 11, in addition to the ground rent.

I do not however add this to the expense of cleaning the Town, as room must be provided for the Fire Engines, and Water Carts ; and I do not see at all why they should be provided for at the expense of the cleaning Department.

In the Southern Gowkhanna, I merely proposed opening out a wall in the old Police Hospital, a building at present *useless*, so as to make it available for a Garikhanna, and to build a store-room for grain.

The outlay required, therefore appears to be

Northern Gowkhanna, ....	....	Co's. Rs.	7,365	0	0
Southern Ditto ditto, ...	...	..	160	0	0
Purchase of Tools, old and new, ...	...	..	400	0	0

Total, .. 7,925 0 0

Add formerly reported outlay, 8,743 0 0

Total outlay, Co's. Rs. 16,668 0 0

The annual expenditure therefore would be as reported above, ...	...	..	64,015	0	0
7,525 Rupees of Buildings at 2 per cent. ...	...	...	150	8	0
12 cottahs, 10 chittacks ground, at 8 Rs. ...	...	...	101	0	0
Tools, taken as at present 40 Rs. per mensem, ...	...	...	480	0	0

Total, ... 64,746 8 0

Deduct Overseer's House rent at 32 Rs. per mensem, ... 384 0 0

Total Annual Expenditure, ... 64,362 8 0

Former Ditto ditto, ... 68,391 6 10

Remainder in favour of New Establishment, ... 4,028 14 10

The repairs of the Buildings at present in existence I have not included in the former expenditure, and have therefore not added to the new expenditure in the comparative statement.

I have but one more remark to make regarding expense, viz. that the Overseer's house rent, Co's. Rs. 384 per annum, amounting in value at the Government interest of 4 per cent. per annum to Co's. Rs. 9,600, covers the whole expenditure required for the Northern Gowkhanna, and one-fourth the outlay for stock. Most of the Carts required have been made up by order of the Chief Magistrate, but Cattle cannot be purchased for the whole for want of accommodation.

The diminution of annual expenditure might, in my opinion, be very advantageously laid out, in allowing two extra Overseers to be placed in charge of the Gowkhannas, and have in addition merely the duty of collecting Establishment, and delivering them over to the working Overseers, who in addition to their duty of cleaning the Streets, it is recommended may have the repair of the Roads: the expense would be,

Two Overseers, at 1,800 Rs. per annum, ...	...	...	3,600	0	0
Two Ditto, Writers, at 180 ditto, ...	...	...	360	0	0

Total Co's. Rs. .. 3,960 0 0

The Roads are at present repaired by the Executive Officer under the orders of the Superintendent, the Overseers of the Town (excepting the two in charge of the Gowkhannas) having nothing to employ them beyond the Scavenging. As the Executive Officer has fully more duty than he can well attend to, I am decidedly of opinion that it would be an advantageous arrangement to provide Overseers for the Town, of education equal to those in the Department of Publick Works, and relieve *him* entirely of the repair of the Roads, which could be carried on by the Overseers, under the orders of the Superintendent. The Overseers in charge of the Gowkhannas, under the proposed systems, could not attend to the duty of Scavengers; their constant attendance at the Gowkhannas would be necessary; that could be no impediment to their entertaining Establishment. If however this be not approved of, I would strongly recommend some other arrangement being made, having for its object the certainty of the Establishment employed, receiving the whole of the money allowed them by Government. No one could provide Establishment better than the present Contractor, and if he were entertained for the purpose on the new plan, and allowed a salary of Co's. Rs. 215 per mensem, the propositions would have the additional advantage of not interfering with "vested rights," supposing those latter to be allowed to weigh against publick improvement.

W. ABERCROMBIE, 2d Lieut.

Calcutta, 18th February, 1837.

Superintendent of Roads and Conservancy.

P. S. I had omitted to notice that the former estimates amounted to above 500 Rupees, for putting the Overseer's house in the Northern Gowkhanna in a state of repair, which in my opinion would have been incomplete. This amount should be deducted from the extra outlay recommended in this Paper; it can however be set off against the expense of buildings for the Water Carts and Fire Engine not provided for in the Northern Gowkhanna, amounting to Rs. 450, if that expense be considered additional to the suggested improvement in the cleansing Establishment.—2d March, 1837.

To ROSS D. MANGLES, ESQUIRE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit two Papers drawn up by Lieutenant Abercrombie, containing a proposition for modifying the Establishment of the Conservancy Department, with the view to ensure efficiency. This subject has occupied much of the attention of that Officer, and under the impression that a system of contract for cleansing the Town is not likely to be adopted, I beg to recommend these Papers to favourable consideration.

2nd. In 1824, a complement, as it is called, or the number of Carts, Coolies, &c. deemed requisite for cleansing the Town, was fixed by Mr. Shakespear as Chief Magistrate. A memo. of that is given by Lieutenant Abercrombie at the head of his Table. I have always considered that complement to be high, and the supply of labourers has on the average, been much below it. Lieutenant Abercrombie now adopts the statements of 1835, as his guide. I am

* It is not an uncommon sight to see a dozen or more of the Conservancy Establishment amusing themselves in some shady spot little caring about labour.

not satisfied, that even less than that amount might not be sufficient;* indeed, Lieutenant Abercrombie seems himself to admit that it would, for he presumes that the Establishment "neglect their public duty for wages given by individuals." I think therefore, that in employing a regular Establishment of labourers we might fix the maximum, or complement, at a lower point

than even Lieutenant Abercrombie assumes.

3d. Indeed it is in general easier to increase an Establishment, proved to be too weak, than to reduce one that is too strong. Lieutenant Abercrombie proposes even to allow of the cleanness of a given Division being taken as a ground of non-interference, by the superintending authority, with the Establishment. The other side of the question must obviously be considered, viz., whether the given Establishment could not clean a larger circle?

4th. One of the most important duties devolving on the Superintendent is, the due apportionment of the labour of the Conservancy Establishment, and reducing the strength of it to the lowest point† consistent with efficiency. I may remark, in passing, that fault cannot be justly imputed to the scavenging of the Town filth; such as house and stable sweepings, are effectually cleaned out when the season admits of it. The real evil is, that in general the Drains are open, and the covered Sewers, even, have openings at all points. No effectual remedy for the nuisance thereby occasioned, can be found in the mere increase of the numbers or activity of the Establishment.

† I am unwilling to recommend a reduction of carts, coolies, &c. The labour of the carts is every day increasing, from the difficulty of finding places for the deposit of sweepings.

5th. In the event therefore of Government sanctioning the change from the present contract to a monthly Establishment system, I would suggest that the scale should be fixed at 10 per cent. in the item of coolies, below that given as the average in 3d page of the present memo: and that propositions for increase should be made when necessary, through the Chief Magistrate's Office to Government.

6th. I approve highly of Lieutenant Abercrombie's propositions for employing Overseers from the Department of Public Works, in the room of the present Overseers, who are steady, sober men, but without education or practice in the principles of Road-making, or keeping books of Establishment; but we must wait for fit opportunities to supply their place. When we have obtained them, the repairs of the Roads ought to be placed in their charge.

7th. It would be premature, I think, to appoint two additional Overseers for the Gowkhanas, or to hire the present Contractor as a procurer of Establishment. There ought, I think, to be no more difficulty in procuring an Establishment of Coolies than an Establishment of Chowkeydars, provided their pay is good, and faithfully given to them. On this point great attention will be necessary—every man's wages should be paid in presence of the Superintendent.

8th. I have to notice, that under the strong opinion expressed by Lieutenant Abercrombie, in which I entirely concur, the repairs to the Northern Division Overseer's house were not executed. It appeared to me that it would undoubtedly be the throwing away money to expend it on an attempted repair of the existing building, and subjecting the Overseer to risk of health by staying in it, or pecuniary loss by renting another house.

9th. The required number of publick Carts has nearly been made up, or they are in course of construction. The points for which the sanction of Government is solicited, are 1st, that we be authorized to maintain a fixed Establishment in lieu of the present contract, amounting to Company's Rupees 4,798 : 8 per month, as under :—

80 Horses with Syces, including feed,		at 16 per mensem, Co.'s Rs.	1,280	0	0
90 Bullocks with Drivers,	....	at 9	810	0	0
34 Mate Drivers, (additional)	....	at 1	34	0	0
80 Loading Coolies,	....	at 3.8	280	0	0
72 Mate Coolies,	....	at 4.8	324	0	0
380 Drain Coolies,	....	at 3.8	1,330	0	0
81 Ditto Boys,	....	at 2.8	202	8	0
4 Sirdar Mehters,	....	at 5	20	0	0
48 Mehters,	....	at 4	192	0	0
1 Sirdar Doome,	....	at 6	6	0	0
16 Doomes,	....	at 4	64	0	0
24 Peons,	....	at 5	120	0	0
4 Sirkars,	....	at 7	28	0	0
24 Bheesties,	....	at 4.8	108	0	0
			<hr/>		
Total,.....			4,798	8	0

2d. That Estimate A. for alterations and additions to the Northern Gowkhanna, amounting to Rupees 7,364 : 15 : 4—
 Estimate B. for certain alterations in the Southern Gowkhanna, amounting to Rupees 159 : 15 : 9—Estimate C. for constructing Sheds in the Northern Gowkhanna, amounting to Rupees 450 : 3 : 11, be sanctioned.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. M ' FARLAN,

Chief Magistrate.

Calcutta Police Office, }
28th April, 1837. }

From D. M ' FARLAN, ESQ.,

Chief Magistrate.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE MILITARY BOARD.

Calcutta Police Office, }
2d May, 1837. }

SIR,

I have the honour to submit, for transmission to the Governour of Bengal, through the Secretary in the Judicial Department, a Letter from myself on the subject of modifying the Establishment of the Conservancy Department, and two Papers drawn up by Lieutenant Abercrombie, accompanied by three Estimates and six Plans alluded to therein.

(True Copy)

EDWARD SAUNDERS,

Secretary Military Board.

From THE MILITARY BOARD,

To THE RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE, LORD AUCKLAND, G. C. B.

Governour of Bengal.

Fort William, 13 June, 1837.

My Lord,

We have the honour to submit herewith copy of a Letter, dated 2nd ultimo, from the Chief Magistrate, and its accompaniments in original, among which is a Letter to the address of R. D. Mangles, Esq. Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department.

On the subject of improving the efficiency of the Conservancy Dept. Calcutta.

2nd. The object of the Chief Magistrate in forwarding these Papers through us, being to obtain our opinion on them, before submitting the question they involve to your Lordship, we have given the subject our attentive consideration, and have to report as follows.

3rd. The modification of the Conservancy Establishment is the principal object of this reference, it being thought desirable by the Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Roads and Conservancy, to substitute a fixed and responsible Establishment for the scavenging of the Town, the Establishment for which, is now supplied through a Contractor, and greater economy as well as increased efficiency is anticipated from this arrangement.

4th. Our opinions generally are adverse to the entertainment of fixed Establishments, which have a constant tendency to increase, and even when found burdensome are extremely difficult to reduce. The employment of hired labourers therefore to meet a particular purpose is, we are of opinion, to be preferred whenever the duty admits of it. The work however for which the Establishment adverted to in the accompanying correspondence is to be maintained, is of a permanent character, and will afford constant employment to a considerable number of daily labourers; and a greater degree of controul may be exercised over men permanently entertained, than on those hired merely for the day; greater efficiency may also be expected from men familiarized to the work, than from strangers. Under these considerations, and the careful summary of the arguments on which the necessity of a change is based, presented by the Chief Magistrate, who has evidently given the subject great attention, we are disposed to coincide in the views entertained by him, and to recommend the retention of the Establishment he proposes.

5th. The first outlay consequent on the change of system, is estimated by Lieutenant Abercrombie at about 9,000 Rupees;—this part of the arrangement we understand, from the tenour of the 9th paragraph of the Chief Magistrate's Letter to Mr. Secretary Mangles, has been nearly effected; and that the sanction of Government is required to the entertainment of a monthly Establishment, amounting to Rupees 4,798 : 8 : 0; subject to future revision, which Establishment will suffice to perform a duty now executed by contract at a much heavier outlay.

6th. The Chief Magistrate forwards at the same time the following estimates.

Estimate No. 1. Book B, of 1837-38, Military Board Office, with Plans by Mr. Robert Sevestre, Executive Officer, of the probable expense of making the alterations and additions to the Northern Gowkhanna at Calcutta, amounting after correction to Company's Rupees 7,201 : 7 : 2.

Estimate No. 2. Book B, of 1837-38, Military Board Office, with Plans by Mr. Robert Sevestre, Executive Officer, of the probable expense of making the alterations to the Lower Southern Gowkhanna, Circular Road, for the reception of additional Conservancy Carts, and adding a Godown or Granary at Calcutta, amounting after correction to Company's Rupees 150 : 13 : 7.

Estimate No. 3. Book B, of 1837-38, Military Board Office, with a Plan by the same Officer, of the probable expense of constructing a shed for twenty watering Carts, one Fire Engine, and the Establishment consisting of twenty five persons attached to ditto, also a shed for fifteen horses and their syces, with coperal tiled double sloped roofs and supported on pillars, at Calcutta, amounting to Company's Rupees 450 : 3 : 11.

7th. The work provided for in these estimates appears necessary, and as the rates are moderate, we recommend that they be sanctioned.

8th. The proposal adverted to by the Chief Magistrate in his 6th paragraph, of employing subordinate functionaries from the Department of Publick Works, more especially those from the Department of Roads on Conservancy duties, we think good. The early habits of discipline and general steady character of men drafted from the Army, for duties of this nature, renders them, we think, generally more useful in such employments, than the candidates for similar situations generally attainable in Calcutta. The duty of Road-making and looking to the Cleaning of Drains, generally of earth, would be a principal part of their duty; some previous education for those branches of duty will at once be admitted as necessary;—it can no where be found in India except in this Department. The controulling Executive Officer would be, in this case, an Engineer of the Company's Service, and the men would be available in seasons of war.

9th. We would respectfully suggest that the question be referred to the Military Department of Government, with a view to the requisite sanction being obtained to the appointment of subordinate Officers of the Department of Publick Works, to do duty under Lieutenant Abercrombie in Calcutta.

We have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient and humble Servants,

D. M ' FARLAN.

A. IRVINE, *Major, M. M. B.*

T. M. TAYLOR, *Major, M. M. B.*

Z. 26.

Tolls.

From CAPTAIN JOHN THOMSON,

Superintendent of Canals.

To THE SECRETARY MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

Calcutta, 1st March, 1837.

Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in your Letter of the 25th instant, I have the honour to acquaint you, that the gross collection of Tolls on the two lines of Navigation mentioned in Act XXII, of 1836, has been as follows:—

1836—November,	..	..	..	15,705	3	3
December,	..	..	..	17,191	6	6
1837—January,	..	..	..	19,720	12	0
February, about,	..	..	..	23,000	0	0

These sums give an expected collection of 1,95,000 in the year, according to the proportion which the annual collection bears to the monthly.—The probable amount of the expenses of collection will be 5,000 Rs. in the year. I cannot give a return of Establishment for the collection only, as they have a variety of other duties, such as the collections for the lands of the Sunderbund and Circular Canals, and of the Ferries and Fisheries. In addition to the 5,000 Rs. before mentioned, the estimated annual expenditure for keeping up the Navigation is 25,000 Rs., including my staff salary of 6,000; and an additional sum of 5,000 Rs. is estimated for extraordinary repairs. The Canal Committee considered that the expenditure of the Government within the last fifteen years would be covered by a return of 60,000 a year, and 15,000 was considered a sufficient fund to effect further improvements; these added up make 1,10,000, to which sum I have no doubt but that the Government will reduce the Toll, although the present rate of Toll is on an average twenty per cent. less than the former regulated Toll; yet being strictly enforced, it bears harder than is desirable on such an important branch of industry, as the internal navigation of the country.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. THOMSON,

Superintendent of Canals.

Z. 27.

To ROSS D. MANGLES, ESQ.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit for the consideration of Government a statement of expense incurred in Lighting the Town, accompanied with a proposition for improving it, which has become practicable without increased expense, in consequence of a reduction in the rates introduced in the month of June last.

2nd. I am led to hope that the Government will be inclined to sanction an outlay, which has the convenience and benefit of the Town's people for its object, and which involves no addition to the expenditure heretofore made from the Government Funds.

3rd. That the benefit of the people will be consulted is plain, though I should have hesitated to recommend the expense, unless a proportionate saving could be shewn to have taken effect.

307 Lamps at 2 Rs. = 614, Sa. Rs. or
Co's. Rs. 651: 15. 4th. The rate which was allowed by Government for Lighting the Town, from 1823 to
307 Lamps at 1: 2: 6: 351: 15 1831, was Sa. Rupees 2 per lamp, per month. In 1831, and subsequent years, the rate has
Monthly Saving 300: 0 been reduced, as shewn at foot, and the saving has been Co's. Rs. 6,963: 1: 6.

5th. That the efficiency of the Lighting has not been impaired, I believe may be safely affirmed. Positive orders are issued to the Police rounds to report the failure of lamps at night, and I believe the practice is in that respect perfect enough.

6th. What I now solicit is, that a sum of Rupees 4,550, out of former savings, may be granted for the purpose of erecting lamps where desirable (the annexed list is tested by Captain Birch) and a
163 additional Lamps at 1: 2: 6 Rs. 188: 7: 6 monthly increase of expense of 188: 7: 6.

7th. The rate of Lighting must vary with the price of oil;—the above expense provides for such increased rate as may fairly be expected to occur.

8th. If the principle of appropriating the savings in the manner suggested be approved of, detailed estimates of the expense of putting up the proposed number of additional lamps can be submitted to Government through the Military Board.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. M'FARLAN, Chief Magistrate.

Calcutta Police Office,
10th November, 1836.

		Sa. Rs.		Sa. Rs.
April, 1831, rate reduced from,	. . .	2 0 0	to	1 14 0
March, 1832, Ditto Ditto,	.. ..	1 14 0	to	1 11 0
15th June, 1836, Ditto, Ditto,	.. ..	1 11 0	to Co's.	1 2 6
307 Lamps from 1st April, 1831, to the 29th February, 1832; being 11 months at				
2 annas per month,	.. ..	.. ..	Sa. Rs.	422 2 0
Ditto from 1st March, 1832, to the 15th June, 1836, being 4 years and 2½ month at 5 annas per				
lamp, per month,	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4,844 13 6

Sicca Rupees, 5,266 15 6

Company's Rupees, 5,618 1 6

307 Lamps from 18th June to 31st October, 1836, 4½ months at 15 annas 7 pie per lamp, per month, 1,345 0 0

Company's Rupees, 6,963 1 6

Z. 27.

To D. M'FARLAN, ESQ.

Judicial Department.

Chief Magistrate of Calcutta.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter dated the 10th instant, relative to the Lighting of the Town of Calcutta, and to inform you in reply, that the Right Honourable the Governour of Bengal is not satisfied that the alleged saving of Company's Rupees 6,963 : 1 : 6, which appears to be nothing more than the aggregate of reduced expenditure, in consequence probably of a fall in the price of oil since April, 1831, can properly be regarded as a fund from which the charge of erecting and maintaining additional lamps may be defrayed "without increased expense."

2. Further, it is obvious that if the price of oil were to rise, the present rate of cost per lamp could not be maintained. See Paragraph 7. This contingency you state has been provided for; if so, the existing rate of Co's. Rs. 1 : 2 : 6 per lamp, at which you calculate the increase, must be too high, but this you do not state; nor, unless there be a contract, of which your Letter conveys no hint, does the Governour suppose that you would allow a charge, at present needlessly high, to stand.

3. Under these circumstances, his Lordship, although he is desirous of seeing means adopted for improving and for extending the means of lighting the Town of Calcutta, is disposed to await the Report of the Committee of Municipal Improvement, before he sanctions the immediate outlay of Rupees 4,550, and the additional monthly charge of Rupees 188 : 7 : 6, proposed by you.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

ROSS D. MANGLES,

FORT WILLIAM,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

20th December, 1836.

Z. 27.

List of Sites for the proposed additional Lamps.

NAMES OF STREETS.							No. Lamps.	Total.
<i>Strand Road.</i>								
As far as Radamadub Banarjee's Ghaut, in places in which Guns have been sunk,							17	19
Aheerectollah Ghaut,							2	
<i>Upper North Division.</i>								
Chitpore Road,	Rajah Nobkissen's street,	2					47	
	Doorgachurn Mitter's street,	2						
	Rajah Goodoss' street,	2						
	Manicktollah street,	2						
	Baranussy Ghose's street,	2						
	Mooktaram Baboo's street,	2						
	Mutchooa Bazar street,	1						
Rajah Nobkissen's street, ..	Saum Bazar street,	2						
Rajah Goodoss' street, ...	Manicktollah street,	2						
Dum-Dum Bridge,	East end, Saum Bazar street,	2						
Chitpore Road,	Soba Bazar street,	2						
	Aherectollah street,	2						
	Neemtollah street,	2						
	Pattooreeah Ghaut street,	2						
	Rutton Sircar's Garden street,	2						
	Baunstollah street,	2						
Chitpore Road,	Burtollah street,	1						
	Cotton street,	1						
Burra Bazar,	Cotton street,	1						
Durmahattah street,	Cotton street,	1						
	Baunstollah street,	2						
	Rutton Sircar's Garden Street,	2						
	Pattooreeah Ghaut street,	2						
	Nimtollah street,	2						
Strand Road,	Hautkollah street,	2						
Soba Bazar street,	Ditto ditto,	2						
<i>Lower North Division.</i>								
Cotton street,	Durmahatta street,	1					32	
Ditto ditto,	Chitpore Road,	1						
Mutchooa Bazar Road, ...	Ditto ditto,	1						
New Cullootollah,	Chitpore Road,	2						
Ditto ditto,	College street,	2						
Moorgeehuttah street,	Chitpore Road,	2						
Ditto ditto,	Old China Bazar street,	2						
Durmahatta street	Jackson's Ghaut street,	2						
Old China Bazar street, ...	Ditto ditto,	2						
Boituckannah Road,	Circular Road,	1						
Ditto ditto,	College street,	1						
College street,	Bow Bazar,	1						
Ditto ditto,	Mutchooa Bazar,	2						
Chunam Gully,	Bow Bazar,	2						
Ditto ditto,	New Cullootollah,	1						
Rada Bazar street,	Old China Bazar street,	2						
Moorgeehuttah street, ...	Portuguese Church Lane,	1						
Armenian street,	Ditto ditto,	1						
Moorgeehuttah street, ...	Doomtollah street,	1						
Ditto ditto,	Omrahtollah,	1						
Bow Bazar Road,	Bow Bazar Lane,	2						
Swallow Lane,	New China Bazar,	1						
Carried forward,								98

Z. 27.

List of Sites for the proposed additional Lamps.—Continued.

NAMES OF STREETS.		No. Lamps.	Total.
<i>Upper South Division.</i>			
	Brought over,		98
Chaudney Choke,	Dhurmahatta Road, two corners,	2	
St. James' street,	Ditto ditto,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Bow Bazar street,	2	
Dhurumtollah Road,	Circular,	1	
Wellington street,	Bow Bazar street,	2	
Bow Bazar Lane,	Loll Bazar Road,	1	
Hiddaram Banarjee's Lane,	St. James' street,	1	
Mudden Dutt's street,	Bow Bazar Road,	1	
Kinderdines Lane,	Ditto ditto,	1	
Creek Row,	Circular Road,	1	
			13
<i>Lower South Division.</i>			
Dhurumtollah Road,	Circular Road,	1	
South-end, Chowringhee Road,		2	
Theatre street,	Chowringhee Road,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Camac street,	2	
Harrington street,	Ditto ditto,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Chowringhee Road,	2	
Middleton street,	Ditto ditto,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Camac street,	2	
Kyd street,	Free School street,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Chowringhee Road,	1	
Sudder street,	Ditto ditto,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Free School street,	1	
Rajchunder's Road,	Chowringhee Road,	2	
South Colingah street,	Free School street,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Circular Road,	2	
Elliot Road,	Circular Road,	2	
Ditto	Ditto South Colingah street,	2	
Park street,	Circular Road,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Camac street,	2	
Circular Road,	Ditto ditto,	2	
Russel street,	Park street,	2	
Ditto ditto,	Middleton street,	2	
Middleton Row,	Park street,	2	
Ditto ditto,	South-end,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Camac street,	1	
Jora Talao street,	Free School street,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Ditto ditto,	1	
Colinga Bazar street,	Jaun Bazar street,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Wellesley street,	1	
Royd street,	Free School street,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Elliot's Road,	1	
Chowringhee Lane,	Kyd street,	1	
Ditto ditto,	Sudder street,	1	
Gorustan Lane,	Elliot's Road,	1	
			52
Total Lamps,			163

(Signed) W. ABERCROMBIE,

Superintendent Conservancy.

Z. 28.

*Remarks on the Office of Coroner of Calcutta, for the Municipal Committee—
(with reference to Evidence, No. 71.)*

In addition to the corrections which I have made in the Notes taken by the Committee, I would observe, that I do Mode of getting a Jury. not find so much difficulty now in obtaining Jurors, as prior to the employment of East Indians as

* Previous to my assuming the office, no presentments of defaulters took place—and it was sometime before I succeeded in establishing the practice on its proper and legal foundation. I was more than once told that I could proceed only by indictment, but on a representation, the date of which I forget, the matter was referred to Sir John Franks, who, I was informed, after some research satisfied himself and the Bench of the right of the Coroner to present defaulters, and I got the form of presentment settled by Mr. Turton. In England, under Mr. Peel's Act, the Coroners have themselves the power of fining to the extent £5, but I am far from desiring a similar power. I would much rather it should remain where it is. There have been 16 cases during the five years I am remarking upon, when I issued Warrants for Jurors but could not obtain a sufficient number to hold inquest.

moning a Jury duly filled up with 36 names instead of 24. The Summonses also are filled up as far as they can be ; that is, they are directed to the parties, so that the instant I decide on holding an inquest, nothing is required to be done but for the Constable to fill up the Summons with the name of the deceased, and the time and place fixed for the inquest, and to sign the same. This preparation is necessary, owing to its being imperative in this climate to dispose of the body as soon as possible, and of course some time is required to allow of the Constables serving the Summons.

Next, I myself keep the Roster, and select the Jurors to be summoned regularly as their time comes round, which now seldom takes place under 16 months ; but this course of proceeding is not merely irregular, I hold it to be illegal. I found the practice to obtain, when I became Coroner ; and although I have occasionally mentioned its illegality to Mr. M'Farlan and to Captains Steel and Birch, I have not taken any steps to effect a change ; because, in the first place, no practical inconvenience has arisen from it ; and, next, I did not like to urge a change whereby I should myself be relieved from some trouble.

The duty of the Coroner when he determines on holding an inquest, is merely to issue his Warrant to the proper officer, which in England is the Beadle of the Parish where the body is lying, directing him to summon 24 good and lawful men. He again issues a sub-precept to the Beadles of neighbouring Parishes, in the same county of course. The Beadles keep the Rosters and select the Jury—in fact, they do for the Coroner in this matter, precisely what the Sheriff does for the Judges in the Supreme Court ; and it is as much a legal anomaly for the Coroner to select his Jurors as it would be for the Judges of the Court of Oyer and Terminer to select theirs. In England it would not be allowed ; for cases occur there, wherein if it was so the Coroner would be exposed to much vituperation. If the Coroner on the occasion of the so called Manchester Massacre had selected the Jury, in addition to the abuse heaped on him as having been partial as a Judge, he would have been taxed also with packing his Jury.

There is little chance here of any occasion arising wherein the Coroner would be obnoxious to such a charge, yet the present practice is clearly illegal ; but as the change would operate to reduction of trouble on my own part, I leave it to be determined by Government, according to the recommendation of the Municipal Committee, whether the present practice shall continue or not. Certainly if paid only by fees for every inquest held, the Coroner will, as a matter of course, seek to be relieved from any duty which does not properly belong to him, and especially from such as may be illegal.

The conveniences of the present practice are, that the Coroner can himself feel assured that impartiality is exercised in selecting the Jurors, and he can then more readily present defaulters ; but under any event I would suggest, that it would very much conduce to the more ready assembly of Jurors, if the Deputy Superintendent of Police were enjoined on receiving the Warrant of the Coroner—*which I think should be directed to him*, and which, as I have said before, is always made out immediately after an inquest has been summoned on the preceding Warrant—to desire the Constables (if possible those who are to execute the Warrant) to ascertain in the intermediate time the existence, residence, &c. of the parties to be summoned ; communicating to the Coroner, if the selection still remained with him, whenever he found a party intended to be summoned to be dead, not to be found, or who for any reason

ought not to be summoned, in order that some other person might be substituted. I once thought that it might also be expedient to warn parties that they were next for this duty; but on consideration, I feared that the practice of endeavouring to escape the service of the Summons would be increased. However if this suggestion is adopted, I feel satisfied that not the smallest difficulty would occur in getting a Jury, even on a holiday; and that the lists

Why Natives hitherto not summoned.

would be much amended. I may as well here also note, that I have hitherto not summoned Native Jurors, owing to the difficulty of getting at them in time, their places of residence only being noted in the published lists, and not their offices. This Sir Edward Ryan undertook to have done, and I shall then be most happy, on every account, to avail myself of the assistance of Native Jurors.

All these matters would obviate any necessity for reducing the number of Jurors, which was hinted at in the Committee, and which to my view would be a violation of a far more important legal principle, than that which I threw out only as a suggestion, viz., that it might be discretionary with the Coroner in this country to dispense with the view by the Jury, and that when he deemed it right to exercise such discretion, a view should be taken by the Coroner, the Superintendent of Police, and the Police Surgeon, who should draw up a minute and particular account of all those matters which furnish the result of the view to a Jury, this being signed by them and sworn to, before the inquest, by the Superintendent and Surgeon; the Coroner's oath of office being sufficient in his case, might be admitted as evidence of the view. Of course the Coroner would exercise this discretion under responsibility to the Supreme Court, in each case. I may here add, that I sincerely believe the effect of the inquiries by the Coroner on the minds of the Native population is very good. They see besides the Coroner, twelve gentlemen repairing to the spot, and as eagerly inquiring into the death of a Native beggar, as of an European of rank. There is generally a large crowd where the body is lying, and the presence of so many Europeans is to them a sufficient guarantee against any, whether well or ill founded, apprehension of justice not being done by the Native Police.

With reference to question No. 21, I did hold an inquest on both occasions of the Malay prisoners dying. The first was named Oombeah; he died at the Police Hospital on the 22d November last. The verdict was "The deceased died a natural death from low typhus fever." There was not a word breathed of suspicion of his having been poisoned. The evidence of the Police Surgeon deposed, that the deceased had been under his own care in the Police Hospital from the 14th to the 22d November, when he died. The lungs were found in a state of softening and great congestion, the liver and spleen were easily broken up, and also much congested, the heart unusually large, and the right ventricle full of dark blood, stomach and intestines very vascular and contained a great quantity of thick dark green-looking matter. Mr. Bain had no hesitation in giving it as his opinion, that he died from a severe attack of low typhus fever. Achce, a fellow prisoner, deposed, that the moment he complained he was removed to the Hospital, and was satisfied that he died by the act of God, and not from any injury done to him while in custody. The evidence, in the case of Watecho, who died in Jail, by Mr. Raleigh, was, that the man was placed in his care on the 19th of November for fever and dysentery, and died on the 29th. Two of his fellow prisoners were satisfied that he died entirely by the act of God.

I have stated that I have derived great benefit and assistance from the present Police establishment, and that the Thannadar establishment is much more trustworthy now than under the former system; but I would observe, that I consider it should be laid down as one of the positive and indispensable duties of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, that the warrant for summoning the Jury being directed to him, he should be present *at the commencement of every inquest*, to return the warrant. The Coroner knowing the demands on his time, would not unnecessarily detain him. The particular Police Constable or Serjeant who is attached to the Division in which the body lies, should also be in attendance during the whole inquest.

Touching acting for the Sheriff when he is a party, I would observe that the question of right was mooted by me some years ago in a case when the Sheriff was a party, and the Writ, as was then the practice, was directed to the Under Sheriff. This practice arose out of the clause in the Charter of Justice, which directs the Judges to choose a fit person in such cases; but at that time there was no legal Coroner, and hence the necessity for that clause in the Charter of Justice. Subsequently, however, under the Act 33, Geo. III. Chap. 52, Sec. 157, Coroners were appointed who "shall and may, by force of this Act, have, do, execute, perform, and exercise the like powers, authorities, and jurisdictions, within the Presidency or Settlement, for which they shall be so respectively nominated and appointed, as by law may be had, done,

“executed, performed, or exercised by Coroners elected for any county or place in England, and not otherwise, or “in any other manner.” And it certainly appeared to me, that under this Section, Coroners in India, as a matter of course, became legally the Officer of the Court in the place of the Sheriff, he being a party. It was however ruled otherwise by Sir Francis Maenaghten and Sir Anthony Buller; but a very short time afterwards, in a case when the Deputy Sheriff was a party, Sir Francis Maenaghten, on application as to whom the writ should be directed, said, that it was advisable in such cases to have some one well known Publick officer, and no one was better than the Coroner, and he ordered that all Writs in such cases should be directed to that officer, and he concluded by desiring that the Writ be directed to “C. B. Greenlaw, Coroner of Calcutta.” Now I should submit that the name had better be omitted, for if the office is alone given, the process would go on notwithstanding the occurrence of a vacancy. I would submit, however, that it should be again considered whether the Act above quoted does not vest in the Coroners in India the same constituted right to act for the Sheriff as obtains at home, and if it does, that it should be so notified. On the other hand, if it should be ruled that it does not, but that the Coroner should be appointed under the discretion vested by the Charter in the Judges, that it should form one of the rules of Court, and be printed and promulgated with the other rules; and this may perhaps be considered the more expedient, in that ere long I imagine Juries will be allowed in civil cases. I would also observe, that the bond given by the Jailer to the Sheriff should include the Coroner; for otherwise this latter officer would be in an awkward predicament in the event of an escape.

I may observe that this acting for the Sheriff is not a source of emolument worth notice. I have not received above 600 Rs. during the time I have been Coroner.

Touching the conveyance of Jurors as well to my office as to the spot where the body may be lying, and back, many Jurors come on foot, and the extent of my jurisdiction requiring sometimes four miles to be passed over to get at the body, even conveyance in palanquin* occasions great delay and inconvenience, especially in the hot weather and rains. Therefore it is that I use my carriages, which, aided by a buggy or two, or palanquin carriage of the Jurors, are sufficient to carry the Jury speedily to and from the body. It will be for Government to determine whether they will authorize any contingent charge for hired carriage conveyance. At all events if the Coroner is paid by fees he cannot be expected to be at the expense himself; and the Jurors will, as they used to do before I adopted my present practice, complain of “being dragged through the sun seven and eight miles in a palanquin,” sometimes in the middle of the day.

I now beg to refer to the accompanying Statement exhibiting the details of the business during the years 1832 to 1836† inclusive, on one or two of which a few remarks may be necessary.

Detailed Statements of Inquests from 1832 to 1836.

† Note. I have taken these years because I began to prepare the statements in 1837.

With respect to those marked A, Nos. 1 to 5, containing the Inquests for the last five years, and No. 6, an Abstract thereof. I would observe that the time occupied, is that from the swearing of the Jury till their discharge, but the time of the Coroner is previously occupied in preparing the warrant for summoning the Jury, and sometimes in inquiring into the facts of the case, in order to the better conducting the inquiry; and after the close in filling up the depositions; and in cases going before the Supreme Court, in binding over the witnesses. The time of the Coroner is further occupied in attending the Sessions, and in summarily investigating sudden and unusual deaths, and deaths in jail, as noted in Statement B, Nos. 1 to 6, on which I shall have to make some remarks.

Reference was made in the Committee to the apprehended frequency of secret poisoning, and I mentioned a case which lately occurred on my own premises, which sufficiently illustrated the absolute necessity of the greatest attention being paid to all cases of sudden deaths, especially with cholera appearances.

The deceased was the Moonshee of my Court, and had been so since August, 1806. He was above 70 years of age, and lived on my premises. I always understood that he was very much respected as a Moolla by all my Mussulman servants, although he was penurious in the extreme. He was always ailing more or less from old age, and therefore when on retiring for the night, I was informed that he was unwell, after having partaken of some sweetmeats in common with the rest of the servants, I thought it arose solely from the palling nature of the sweetmeats; he had therefore some tea and liquid essence of ginger sent to him.

In the morning when I went to see him, I perceived he was dying. He was then speechless, and died about half past eight. I had not the most distant suspicion, notwithstanding that I heard he had declared that it was something in the sweetmeats that had made him ill; but I had the body opened, and I have been seldom more surprised than when I received a note from the Police Surgeon, stating that he had found a large quantity of arsenic in his stomach.

The only evidence I could get, went to this, viz. that one of my kitmutgars who had entered my service, a boy of 17 or 18, and been with me seven years, had made a vow if a certain sick calf recovered, that he would distribute sweetmeats among the servants; accordingly he gave another kitmutgar some pice to bring the sweetmeats, and having received them, he called the Moonshee into the bottleconnah to perform some religious ceremony over them, after which he said, "there is a large one for you, eat it, and here is a small one for your nephew," a lad who lived with him. The Moonshee eat the greater part of his before he left the bottleconnah; when he went to his own place, he said to his nephew, "here, Hingun has given me a large sweetmeat, I do not want it all, take what remains and eat now, and keep your own till some other time." The boy accordingly ate the remains of the large ball, and both were sick;—not a single clue beyond this could I get, except that the sweetmeats taken to Hingun by the other kitmutgar were all of the same size.

The difficulty was first to establish by evidence that the arsenic was in the large ball; and, secondly, that it had been given by Hingun. This latter however he admitted, but standing as he did, I could not ask him how the ball became enlarged.

I could not rule that arsenic was in the ball, notwithstanding both had eaten of it and both were sick, because first the boy was very slightly sick, and might have been so from sheer sympathy. If it had happened that he had vomited into a place separate from his uncle and arsenic had been there detected, it would have been different; for although arsenic was discovered in a flower pot into which both had vomited, it was impossible to say that any had come from the boy.

I handed the case over to Mr. M'Farlan, with the two kitmutgars, but regret that nothing could be made of it. The kitmutgar Hingun bore with me a most excellent character in every respect, and I am altogether in doubt as to the criminal. I believe the motive to have been, to benefit some way or other by the vacancy occasioned in the office. I obviated this by introducing an entire stranger.

Another case shewing how poisoning by arsenic may be mistaken for cholera, was that of Mr. Berry—Inquisition No. 15 of 1832. He took his tiffin of bread butter and cheese, in the form of a sandwich, at his office, viz. the office of his master, the late Mr. Ronald, Attorney, and shortly after was taken very ill. Dr. Jackson attended him immediately, and pronounced him attacked by cholera. He was removed home and attended by his family Surgeon, the late Dr. Vos. I will not affirm that Dr. Vos, held the case to be cholera towards its close; but certainly he did so for some time. However the body was interred in the Roman Catholic Burial Ground; but the next day some grains of arsenic being found on the rattan mat near his desk, Mr. Ronald brought them to me. It was Saturday; but I fortunately had an adjourned inquest for four o'clock that day, and I caused the body to be disinterred, when the fact of death having arose from arsenic was clear. The perpetrator here also could not be discovered; though strong suspicions rested on certain parties.

I have been particular in requiring generally, that the bodies of persons for whom permissive warrants to bury without an Inquest being held, are required, unless the cause of death is clear, should be opened and certificate furnished by the Police Surgeon; I do not therefore think that cases of poisoning by mineral poison do frequently occur without detection. By vegetable poisons I fear they may do so, owing to the extreme difficulty of detection; and unfortunately both kinds of poison can be procured in all parts of Calcutta, at the cheapest cost—against this there is no guarding.

The next description of case to which I would refer, is the exposure of infants, and infanticide. At one time, and up to about 1824 or 1825, this was very frequent; but from the mother not being forthcoming, and no evidence how the child became exposed being procurable, although several inquests were held, I could not get one verdict against any person. Of late however I have scarcely a report in a year of such a case. I really believe the last is that referred to in the statement of inquest No. 11, of 1832. What has led to this absence of exposure of infants, I cannot say; only six instances, including the one just mentioned, have occurred during the five years in question. Certainly when it obtained frequently, I did exert myself to the utmost to get at a party, and perhaps this, together with the increased vigilance of the Police, may have been the cause of fewer cases being reported; but whether the crime of exposing living infants itself has been diminished, is quite another question. Many of these exposed infants were either born dead, or had died shortly after birth, and the parents have from poverty and want of feeling,

thrown the body into a ditch or drain ; but there can be no doubt that many were wilfully exposed to perish, with a view to screen the parties from disgrace especially in cases where the mother may have been part of the family of Natives of respectability, whether of the family itself or servant. The case above alluded to, was clearly a case of wilful exposure ; the child was quite healthy and was found alive, and there were strong suspicions as to the house whence the child had been brought ; but with all the active aid of Mr. McCann zealously exercised, I could get no tangible clue. I confess I fear that the practice may be secretly carried on.

The particulars in respect to violence done by others, may be seen on reference to statement A, No. 6. They amount in all to 34 ; besides, there were six cases in which no inquest was held, in consequence of not being able to procure a jury. Of the 34 there were 27 verdicts of wilful murder, of which 8 were against person or persons unknown. Of the parties charged on the remaining 19 inquisitions, eleven were convicted and executed, one of them having killed three persons ; three were convicted of manslaughter ; and three acquitted, one of them on the ground of insanity. There were five inquisitions for manslaughter ; four of the parties charged were convicted, and one acquitted ; and there were two inquisitions of homicide by insanes.

I would now refer generally to the cases* where permissive warrants to bury are granted without an inquest. The body of no person found dead, or who may have died suddenly, or have marks of violence on the body, or under any circumstances of suspicion however trifling, can legally be disposed of, without the intervention of the Coroner.

* Vide statement B, Nos. 1 to 6.

Permissive warrants to bury without inquest.

The circumstances attending the death, when the application is made for such permissive warrant, as far as they can be ascertained, are communicated to the Coroner ; at home by the constituted Publick officers of the parish, the Vicar, or Churchwardens, and sometimes by the local Magistrates ; of course the more respectable the testimony, the more the Coroner is bound to grant the warrant without an inquest ; and this he does without going to the spot, which may be twenty or thirty miles from his residence—of course he exercises this discretion under great responsibility.

Prior to the change in the Police system, I myself personally went and saw every dead body reported to me. I went with my interpreter and made inquiries on the spot. I do not consider this as my actual duty ; but at that time, unless I did so, I could not get that immediate information of the circumstances which is necessary to guide me in this country, whether or not to hold an inquest. Sometime after the change in the Police system in communication with Mr. M'Farlan, the present practice, founded on that at home, was introduced. I am particular in requiring certificate from the Police Surgeon in most cases, and I have required that the Police Constable or Serjeant of the Division shall inquire of the circumstances on the spot. I am not aware whether this is done in every case ; I think it certainly ought to be done. It is impossible to depend on the Native Police, in all such cases. I will state one that occurred before the change in the Police.

On one Sunday morning I got notice of a child having been found drowned. The Thannadar endeavoured to persuade me that there was no occasion for me to go to the spot. I did not suspect any thing on this account, as the Thannadars frequently did the same, solely with a view, as they thought, to save me trouble. When I came to the tank, I asked as usual from what part of the tank the child had been taken. From the place pointed out, I instantly saw that the child could not by any possibility have got into the tank by accident, but must have been thrown from the roof of an adjoining house. I had a long inquiry. It turned out that the mother of the child was married to a fatuous man, and the reputed father in the neighbourhood, was the son of the Thannadar who had endeavoured to dissuade me from going to the spot ; he was also Naib of the Division. I could however get no good evidence as to the guilty party. The mother was I think entirely innocent ; she had left her child, an helpless infant, asleep in a room upstairs while she went down to take her dinner ; when she went up, the child was missing. It was after dusk, and there was a staircase leading from the room in which the child lay to the roof of the house, on reaching which, and passing over the roof of two adjoining houses, the child could be easily thrown into that part of the tank from whence it was taken. Mr. Hogg, subsequently took the case in hand but could make nothing of it.

The next description of case to which I would refer, is that of the accidental drowning of children. This is by no means unfrequent (there having been twenty-three in the five years), though I think not so much as it was once. It arises from the exposed state of the tanks, and the natural disposition of children in this country, from the force of example, to be dabbling in water. It occurs almost entirely among the poorer classes, who being occupied in their business, and being unable to keep a servant to look after their children, they wander about and sometimes fall into, and at others voluntarily enter, tanks, and are drowned. I know no remedy for

Accidental drowning.

this; the Chinese who live on the water attach dry gourds to their children, which keep them afloat, if they accidentally fall overboard, but here of course no Native anticipates that his child will ever need such a security.

The next case is that of children being accidentally burnt. This occurs generally during the cold weather, when the children cumber over a wood or straw fire, for its warmth, and their clothes become ignited. Children accidentally burnt. Of course no remedy but care on the part of the parents can be applied here. The next case is one of regular occurrence during the hot weather, viz. parties suffocated in consequence of descending into dry, or nearly dry, wells, in ignorance of the effects. Only two cases are specially noticed in the statements as having arisen from this cause; but out of the thirty cases of adults drowned in wells or tanks, a great part arose from descending incautiously into dry wells. This might be in a great measure guarded against, by a notice being stuck up at all such wells, warning people against going down during the hot weather, and the caution might be tom-tomed, throughout the various Thannah Divisions.

Another case of almost regular periodical occurrence, is death arising from the fall of old walls, houses, and huts. Death by fall of old walls, &c. Fourteen instances of this have occurred during the five years. It occurs chiefly during the rains, when walls and houses, cemented alone with mud, give way, and very frequently, either bury people in their own ruins, or by falling on the lightly constructed huts of the poorer class of Natives, equally smother and destroy them. Sometimes the thatched roofs of the huts themselves, saturated with rain, give way, and falling directly down smother the inmates.

With regard to these casualties, much I think might be done to prevent them. No old dangerous wall or house should be allowed to remain. Parties who will not repair or remove such nuisances are liable to indictment, and they ought to be indicted. I have frequently brought this to the notice of Mr. M'Farlan and the Superintendent of Police, and I have been informed that the Thannadars of the several Divisions have orders, and their Chowkeydars under them, to give notice of every dangerous or suspicious looking place to the Police, on receiving which, an inspection is made, and proceedings had to abate the nuisance; but I consider that this and some other matters should be made part and parcel of a Regulation—that they should not merely be conveyed verbally to the Thannadars, but should be hung up in the Thannahs, and notified for general information, European as well as Native. No pukka house or wall ought to be allowed to be erected with mud only, or with any thing but sufficient cement. If people were obliged to give notice when they were about to build, an appointed inspector or surveyor might examine from time to time the security. In England individuals in Towns are obliged to have their houses securely built, and in London to go to the expense of party walls. Of course here among the lower classes any additional expense, however small, is of importance; but the pukka houses and walls of many sufficiently rich Natives are run up with mud, and after all, human life is too valuable to be periodically sacrificed for the sake of saving a few Rupees.

The next case to which I see reason to refer, is that of persons found dead in a state of destitution. These amount to thirty-five during the five years. These cases have been greatly reduced within the Town, by the Establishment of the Gurnhatta Hospital, to which place many found dying in the Streets are removed, who would otherwise be taken to the Native Hospital in the Durrumtollah; some moreover are doubtless saved by the Establishment of the former Hospital; and on the whole, the cases of persons found dead in a state of destitution are much reduced in number.

Deaths from fires. Deaths from fires do not occur so often as might be expected, from the frequency and extent of the fires. It generally happens to old decrepid people, who cannot move speedily out of their huts. I never could trace the commencement of a fire.

It is generally supposed that the accidents from being knocked down by buggies or other carriages, run-away horses, &c. are very numerous. Only twenty-two however have occurred during the five years, and only nine of them were subjected to inquiry, owing in the other cases to the parties escaping, and leaving no trace behind them. These accidents do not so much arise out of carelessness in the driver, as in the Native pedestrians, who seldom give any consideration to passing carriages, even when meeting them. The accidents of course are more frequent from their being no foot paths, and pedestrians, carriages, and equestrians, all being mixed together.

There have been twenty-nine cases during the five years, of parties meeting their deaths by falling from roofs of houses, terraces, scaffolds, &c.; some of these have arisen from intoxication.

The last case of death, except of those dying in Jail, of which I shall speak presently, requiring the intervention of the Coroner, which it is necessary to notice, is that of self-destruction. The number of these cases during the five years was forty-nine, on eleven of which inquests were held, and in one case an inquest

would have been held, but there was a default of Jury. Out of the thirty-eight cases in which no inquest was held, twenty-two were women, and sixteen men. Twenty of the women hung themselves, the causes being generally, jealousy, quarrel with their husbands or other relatives, and pain, and illness. Two poisoned themselves, one an European woman, suffering greatly from pecuniary distress. The causes in regard to the men, are chiefly long illness, and derangement of mind. Of the sixteen males, thirteen hung themselves, one strangled himself, one cut his throat, and one, a lad of 16½ years of age, took poison, and acknowledged it before his death. He did it from distress of mind at not having been brought up to any business, whereby he might maintain himself. In the case of parties found hanging, it has been supposed that it may happen that they have been previously killed either by strangulation or other means, and afterwards suspended. I consider it however scarcely possible that such a thing could occur without detection. In such cases it most frequently happens, that the parties are not wholly suspended—that their feet touch the ground owing to the fall; and I have seen a clear case of self-destruction effected, by a party kneeling on the ground and placing his head in the bight of a rope, suffer it to press behind the ear and cause strangulation. Only one case of a party having been previously killed and subsequently suspended, has occurred during my period of office. It was that of a young married woman. The instant I went into the room it was quite apparent to me that she had not hung herself; for the height from whence the rope was round her neck to the place where it was fastened was not five feet, while her toes were some distance from the ground—it was evident that if she had hung herself, there must have been a sufficient fall of rope to have brought her feet in contact with the ground. On examining her, there was a clear mark running *even* round her neck below that occasioned by the suspension, this latter indeed being scarcely perceptible, while the former was very plain;—there was no direct evidence, but the circumstantial evidence clearly established, that no person could have done it but the husband, and a verdict of wilful murder was returned against him. There was however great difficulty in bringing this matter home to the satisfaction of the petty Jury—the view here was of great moment—the man was acquitted.

I may here observe, that in no case of a party found hanging, strangled, or poisoned, is a warrant granted to bury without inquest, except on the most clear and satisfactory proof that it was the voluntary act of the parties themselves, viz. doors and windows fastened inside, parties seen a short time before, and found in situations shewing it to be impossible for any other person to have done it, &c. &c. Certainly, in strictness, an inquest ought to be held on every body so found, but I have followed the example of my predecessors in exercising a discretion in such cases, because the population so far exceeds the Jury List, that if an inquest was held in every case when it would be held at home, the Jurors would have little else to do but to attend inquests. The eleven cases in which inquests were held, referred all to men. Five hung themselves, two under derangement of mind, one owing to pains in his body, and there was no evidence to shew the state of mind of the other two. Three out of the eleven cut their throats, two of them after committing murder, and the other in a state of derangement. Of the remaining three, two strangled themselves in unsound state of mind, and the other poisoned himself by means of opium and orpiment of arsenic, under the influence of feelings arising from his having been disgraced.

Touching deaths in Jail, strictly, an inquest ought to be held in every case; and here again, following the practice Deaths in Jail, which I found to obtain, I take on myself heavy responsibility in issuing a permissive warrant to bury without an inquest; but this I never do without going myself to the Jail, with my interpreter, and satisfying myself by the testimony of the fellow prisoners of the deceased, that no cause of complaint exists. I always however hold inquests when there is the slightest disinclination to bear testimony to there being no cause of complaint; and I must, in justice to the several Jailers who have had charge during the seventeen years I have been Coroner, say, that it is impossible for such unpleasant duties to be better conducted than they are in the Calcutta Jail.

It will be seen from the above, that the time devoted by the Coroner to the duties of his office, is not confined to that Time devoted by Coroner to the duties of his Office. during which he is holding inquests, nor his responsibility to the cases involved on those inquests. Besides these latter, Statement B, No. 6, shews an annual average of 90 permissive warrants granted to bury without inquests, in every individual case of which number he is responsible to the Supreme Court, and liable, under the 6th Sec. Act. 9. Geo. IV. C. 74: to summary punishment, if in any one case he grants this permissive warrant, when it ought not to have been granted; and on a full review of the duties and Office not overpaid. responsibilities, I think the Committee will consider that this Officer is not overpaid, and that it is expedient that the Coroner should continue to be paid under a fixed salary, rather than by fees on every inquest held.

Under the present system the Coroner has no interest in multiplying inquests, yet he has a deep interest in holding one in every case when it is necessary, namely the maintenance of his character. Besides which, there is a check on him in this latter particular, in the persons of the Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, who would not fail to complain of any malversation in this particular; hence there occurs under the present arrangement a minimum of inquests, while the purposes of Justice are fully answered.

On the other hand, if paid by fees, it would be the interest of the Coroner to multiply inquests, to the great inconvenience and unnecessary annoyance of Jurors; nor would it be proper to attempt a remedy for this by interfering with the independence of the Coroner, and directing that he should only hold inquests when required by the Chief Magistrate or any other person;—the only check would be the non-allowance of the fees for unnecessary inquests, to be determined by the Quarter Sessions as in England.

There is one other matter which appears to me to require notice. It is the mode and manner in which the attendance of Witnesses should be secured. The Natives of this country are very averse from attending Courts of Justice;—of course the Coroner has the power to summon witnesses, and to enforce attendance by warrant if necessary; but I do not know what power either he or the Police authorities have to take security for the continued attendance of witnesses during a protracted inquiry, or to detain them if such security is not forthcoming. I have always declined to interfere in this matter. In cases going before the Supreme Court, I of course bind the parties over to appear on their own recognizance, which it is obvious is but a matter of form. I am certain that the Native Police take some other description of security for their attendance, as well during protracted inquest as for their appearance at the Sessions, and believing that this, however absolutely necessary for the purposes of justice, is still not authorized by law, I think that some Regulation or Act should be passed, authorizing the Superintendent of Police, or the Thannadars, to take security for the continued attendance of witnesses during an inquiry, and for their attendance at the Sessions.

I am afraid that it may be considered that I have extended this Paper to too great a length; but having so extended it, it may perhaps not be inexpedient that I should, in conclusion, briefly refer to the measures I have suggested to be adopted.

1st. It should be determined whether the illegal practice of the Coroner selecting his Jury, should be allowed to continue or not. If not, it should be entrusted to the Superintendent of Police, the Coroner furnishing him with the necessary number of Summons; and in either case the Constables, if possible those who will have to serve the Summons, should ascertain whether the parties intended to be summoned are living, and where, and whether any person entered in the List, for any reason ought not to be summoned in order to some other person being included in his stead.

2nd. On every occasion of sudden or extraordinary death occurring, the European Serjeant of the Division himself ought to repair immediately to the spot, and make every possible inquiry, reporting the circumstance to the Superintendent, or his Deputy, who would use their discretion in directing the Police Surgeon to examine the body. The European Serjeant should make an immediate report of the result of his inquiry to the Superintendent, or Deputy, and on either of these parties feeling that no inquest was necessary, he should make the usual official application, and send it by the European Serjeant, together with the parties, who can speak to the facts, on which the Coroner would determine whether to hold the inquest or not. I really do think that in no case should the Native Police alone be allowed to conduct the local and preliminary inquiry on the spot.

3rd. The warrant for summoning a Jury should be directed to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, who ought to attend and return the warrant. In nine cases out of ten, after the Jury were impanelled he would be no longer required, but the European Serjeant of the district on which the body is lying, should attend throughout the inquest.

4th. The question of dispensing with the view, in this country, on the discretion of the Coroner, might be considered subject to the statement of particulars by the Coroner, Superintendent of Police, and Police Surgeon mentioned above.

5th. The question of conveyance for the Jurors to and from the place where the body is lying, may be considered. I do not refer to this question on my own account, but it may not suit the convenience of future Coroners to employ their own carriages, and certainly every facility ought to be afforded Jurors, in viewing the body.

6th. Assuming that some act will emanate from the inquiries of the Municipal Committee, I would submit that it should contain a clause touching old and dilapidated walls and houses, and affording means of due security in the building of new, particularly as respects the cement.

7th. That at the commencement of the hot weather, notices on boards be affixed to all wells, warning people against descending them, and that periodically a similar notice be tom-tomed throughout the Town.

8th. That some fixed and defined power should be conferred on the Police authorities to require security for the attendance of witnesses during inquiries, and at the Supreme Court.

9th. That the constitutional right of the Coroner to act for the Sheriff be determined, and in case the clause in the Charter is not held to be virtually set aside by the act appointing Coroners, and the Supreme Court should determine that the duty should be vested in the Coroner, that a rule to that effect be promulgated with the other rules of Court.

I annex a statement of the salary, allowance, &c. of the Coroner. The fixed Establishment amounts to Salary and Allowance. Co's. Rs. 758 : 2 : 1. It will eventually, when all parties vacate, be reduced to Co's. Rs. 726.

The annual average contingent charge amounts to Rs. 200, or monthly to Rs. 16-8, making the whole monthly charge Rs. 774, reducible eventually to Rs. 742. The allowance for stationery and printing scarcely meets the demand. There are to be provided, warrants directing Jurors to be summoned, on each occasion of which 36 summons are expended. There are warrants required for the burial of bodies, with and without inquest. Summons to witnesses, warrants for ditto, and for committment to prison. Few of these are required, but it is necessary they should be ready. There are also warrants for arrest of parties against whom verdict is returned, and others for their commitment to Jail, and also recognizances of witnesses to appear at the Sessions. Parchment for inquisition is supplied from Government. The contingent charges arise chiefly out of the fees to the Constables, viz. 2 Rs. per diem, for summoning persons—and attending the inquests, and for conveying prisoners to Jail, Rs. 8. Palanquin hire for Jurors likewise sometimes forms part of the contingent charge.

CHAS. B. GREENLAW,

Coroner.

Calcutta, July 10th, 1838.

Statement of the Salary and Allowances, &c. of the Coroner.

	Sa. Rs.	As.	Ps.	Co's. Rs.	As.	Ps.	Co's. Rs.	As.	Ps.	Co's. Rs.	As.	Ps.
Coroner,	300	0	0	313	8	0						
House and Office Rent, .. .	250	0	0	261	4	0						
ESTABLISHMENT.							574	12	0			
Interpreter and Writer, ..	60	0	0	62	11	3						
Molovie,				12	0	0						
Brahmin,	12	0	0	12	8	7						
4 Chapprassies, at Sa. Rs. 6 each,	24	0	0	25	1	4						
9 Bearers, per month	36	0	0	37	9	11						
Allowance for Stationery, ..	12	0	0	12	8	7						
Ditto ditto, Printing Summonses,	20	0	0	20	14	5						
CONTINGENCIES.							183	6	1			
For 1832, Sa. Rs.	250	0	0	261	4	0				758	2	1
„ 1833, „	169	0	0	179	9	8						
„ 1834, „	158	4	0	160	2	4						
„ 1835, „				141	0	0						
„ 1836, (including Feb. 1837,) ..				259	9	3						
							5)998	9	3			
							12)199	11	5			
										16	7	7
										Rs. 774 9 8		

C. B. GREENLAW,

Coroner.

Z. 29.

Abstract of Inquisitions held at Calcutta, during the years 1832 to 1836.

Year.	VERDICTS.						REMARKS.
	Accidental death.	Natural death.	Found dead.	Self-destruction.	Violence by others.	Total Number.	
1832.	4	4	1	3	9	21	There are 21 verdicts, though there were only 20 inquests.—This arises from two verdicts being included in one inquisition, viz. Cossial for Murder of Agah and for Felo-de-se. Of the 9 verdicts under the head "Violence by others," 7 were for wilful Murder, including that of Cossial. The other 6 were convicted. The remaining two verdicts were for wilful Murder against person or persons unknown. One of these was the last case of Infanticide which has come before me. There was one inquest in Jail on an European; one on a Native; and one in the House of Correction on a Native.
1833.	3	4	2	1	7	17	Here again there were only 16 inquisitions, the verdicts of Felo-de-se and wilful Murder against Motee Ram, being included in one inquisition.—Of the 7 verdicts under the head "Violence by others," 5 were for wilful Murder, of which two were convicted. One was acquitted on the ground of Insanity; one killed himself after committing the Murder. The other case included 7 persons, all of whom absconded; one only was taken, and he was convicted of Manslaughter, and sentenced to pay a fine of Sa. Rs. 2,000, with 6 calendar months imprisonment. The remaining two cases of the seven were, one of Manslaughter—party was convicted and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment in the House of Correction—the other, the Coroner's verdict was Insanity; the party was tried on indictment, and acquitted on that ground. Two inquests were held in Jail, one on an European, one on a Native, both debtors.
1834.	8 on 9 bodies.	4	1	2	5	20 on 21 bodies.	Of the 5 verdicts under the head "Violence by others," three were for Murder, one of them was against person or persons unknown. In one case party was convicted; in the other, the party was convicted of Manslaughter, and sentenced to one year imprisonment in the Common Jail. The other two verdicts were for Manslaughter—both parties were found guilty; one was sentenced to pay a fine of Rupees 100; the other imprisonment for one month, and fined a Rupee. One inquest in Jail on an European debtor; two in House of Correction.
1835.	4 on 12 bodies.	4	1	3	6	18 on 20 bodies.	Of the 6 verdicts under head "Violence by others," two for wilful Murder against parties known. In one case the party was acquitted. In the other, six Chinese—four on inquisition, and two committed by the Magistrates—were tried; the four were convicted of Manslaughter, and transported for life; the other two acquitted. Three verdicts were for wilful Murder against person or persons unknown, and one for Manslaughter by furious driving; the parties, two postillions, were found guilty and fined 50 Rupees each. One inquest in Jail on a Crown prisoner Native.
1836.	4	4	2	2	7 on 8 bodies.	19 on 20 bodies.	There are only 19 verdicts while there are 20 inquisitions, these arise out of verdict being returned at the same time against Eman Salim for the murder of two persons, when separated inquisitions were drawn for each; there was also another inquisition for a third person, killed by him, on separate inquest held, the man having died after the other two. Besides the case of Eman Salim, which bears on two of the verdicts out of the seven under the head "Violence by others," there was one other verdict of wilful Murder against an individual and others, unknown. He was tried and acquitted. There were also two verdicts of wilful Murder against person or persons unknown, and one of Insanity. The remaining verdict was for Manslaughter, the party was acquitted. Two inquests in Jail, one on a debtor, the other on a Prisoner for trial. One inquest on Police Prisoner in Town Guard.
	23 on 32 bodies.	20 on 20 bodies.	7 on 7 bodies.	11 on 12 bodies.	34 on 35 bodies.	5) 95 19,	

	Newly born Infants.	Run over, or knocked down by Carriages, Horse, or other animal.	Fall of Walls, Houses, &c.	Self-destruction.	Wilful murder.		Manslaughter.	Homicide by Insane Persons.
					Persons known.	Persons not known.		
1832	1	4	0	3	7	2-0	0	0
1833	0	1	0	2	5	0-5	1	1
1834	0	4	2	2	2	1-3	2	0
1835	0	0	0	3	2	3-5	1	0
1836	0	0	1	2	3	2-5	1	1
	1	9	3	12	19	8-27	5	2

Z. 30.

Abstract of permissive Warrants to bury without Inquest, during the years 1832 to 1836, both included.

Year.	Accidental death.	Natural death.	Found dead.	Self-destruction.	Violence by others.	Total.	Europeans.	Natives.	In Jail.	House of Correction.	Petty Court Jail.	Children Burnt.	Run over.	Fall of Walls or Houses.	Occasion when Inquests would have been held but could not obtain Jurors.
1832.	27	25	24	3	0	79	5	74	3	3	0	6	1	6	1
1833.	31	39	27	8	1	106	9	97	12	4	0	0	1	1	7
1834.	41	34	20	8	1	104	1	103	5	11	0	2	9	5	3
1835.	37	14	21	6	1	79	2	77	2	3	1	1	0	3	3
1836.	21	30	16	13	3	83	0	83	0	9	2	3	2	0	2
5	157	142	108	38	6	451	17	434	22	30	3	12	13	15	16
Annual Average.	31 $\frac{2}{5}$	28 $\frac{2}{5}$	21 $\frac{3}{5}$	7 $\frac{3}{5}$	1 $\frac{1}{5}$	90 $\frac{1}{5}$									

	Burnt.	Drowned in Wells or Tanks.	Run over or knocked down by Carriage, horse or other animal.	Fall from House, &c.	Fall of Wall, House, &c.	By making Wells, while working, or fall of articles being carried.	Kick of a Horse.	Bite of a Snake.	Found Dead in Streets.	Newly born Infants.	Lightning.	Self-destruction.	Violence by others. No. Inquests, could not get Jury.
1832.	Children, .. 6 Adults, .. 2 — 8	Children, .. 5 Adults, .. 5 — 10	1	2	2	1	1	1	10	2	0	3	0
1833.	Children, .. 0 Adults, .. 1 — 1	Children, .. 3 Adults, .. 11 — 14	1	6	1	3	1	2	7	1	1	8	1
1834.	Children, .. 2 Adults, .. 3 — 5	Children, .. 6 Adults, .. 9 — 15	9	5	5	5	1	2	5	0	0	8	1
1835.	Children, .. 1 Adults, .. 1 — 2	Children, .. 5 Adults, .. 3 — 8	0	7	3	0	0	2	7	0	4	6	1
1836.	Children, .. 0 Adults, .. 3 — 3	Children, .. 4 Adults, .. 2 — 6	2	9	0	2	1	0	6	2 still-born	0	13	3
	19	53	13	29	11	11	4	7	35	5	5	38	6

C. B. GREENLAW,

Coroner.

